

Autumn statement lowers expectation of early election

Major declares tough curb on public spending

By ANATOLE KALETSKY AND ROBIN OAKLEY

JOHN Major yesterday insisted that public spending was being kept under tight control, in spite of the admission in the Commons that it would exceed £200 billion for the first time next year. The Chancellor's autumn statement reduced expectations in Westminster of an early election.

Mr Major has reinforced his determination to prevent public spending from rising as a proportion of Britain's national income, even though the Treasury has confirmed that a recession had almost certainly begun.

Government spending will rise in the next financial year to £200.3 billion, compared with the £192.4 billion the Treasury had planned a year ago. However, the whole of the over-run was due to big increases in three of the most politically sensitive programmes: social security, health and local authority support.

Expansions in other programmes were more than offset by cuts elsewhere, particularly in the defence budget, and several spending

departments found their allocations cut in real terms.

Although the Chancellor expressed some disappointment at the fact that public spending in the present financial year had risen slightly in relation to the gross domestic product, he said that much of that effect was caused by the abrupt weakening of the economy. For the two years ahead, he forecast that public spending would stabilise at 39.5 per cent of GDP before resuming the

1989 and an expected £15.5 billion this year. The government still plans to repay £3 billion of public sector debt this year, in spite of the over-run in public spending. But a return to public deficit next year appeared plausible on the basis of the Treasury's forecasts, making tax cuts in the next budget uncertain.

Mr Major left himself considerable leeway on this score, however, by pointing out that the government's objective was to run a balanced budget on average, implying that past surpluses might be considered as offsetting any deficit next year. He also pointed out that Britain's overall fiscal balance remained considerably stronger than those of other industrialised countries, even after the cost over-runs.

At yesterday's cabinet meeting, seven or eight ministers complained at the paucity of their settlements, saying they had accepted them only for the good of the government's overall strategy. Most then sent out press releases claiming victory in the spending allocations they had secured for their departments. Mr Major told MPs: "Many of my colleagues have had to drop or postpone proposals they would otherwise have regarded as desirable."

His forecast of a slowdown in growth continuing into next year, with unemployment continuing to rise for some months, gave no encouragement of an early election. Mr Major and his chief secretary, Norman Lamont, both clearly have their sights fixed on 1992.

John Smith, the shadow Chancellor, chided Mr Major for being unwilling to admit that Britain was in a recession. He said that in the run-up to the single European market in 1992, the government should be increasing investment in the regions, training, export promotion and research and development. Instead, it was cutting spending on training and reducing investment by the Department of Trade and Industry.

Mr Smith said: "This is the fifth occasion the government has predicted a fall in inflation. Why should we believe this one any more than any of the others?"

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steady decline that is one of the Thatcher government's main policy objectives from 1993 onwards.

Treasury officials said it would be an almost unprecedented achievement for the government even to stabilise the share of public expenditure in GDP, given that a mild recession was incorporated in the Treasury's economic forecasts.

According to these forecasts, output began to decline during mid-summer and will continue to fall until next spring. Although the Treasury still expects full-year growth to be positive both this year and next, it is predicting that GDP will be about 1.2 per cent lower during the second half of the current financial year than in the previous half year and will show no growth in the following six months.

Unpublished quarterly forecasts are understood to show the economy declining from the third quarter of this year and then starting to recover in the second quarter of 1991.

On inflation, the Treasury is forecasting a rapid reduction from the present rate of 10.9 per cent to 5.5 per cent by the end of next year. The forecasts are also optimistic about the balance of payments, showing a decline to £11 billion from £19 billion in



Economy drive: Major heading for Westminster yesterday

Benn advised to cancel his visit to Iraq

By PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

DOUGLAS Hurd, the foreign secretary, last night appealed to Tony Benn to call off a visit to Baghdad as he delivered a fresh warning that war with Iraq might be close.

Mr Hurd told the Commons that sanctions alone were unlikely to be decisive in forcing Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait in the near future. He told MPs that the countries opposing Iraq had "to go up to the wire in search of peace" but they had to face the possibility that Saddam Hussein might resist all peaceful pressures. "That is why it is essential to build up the military option to show it is not a bluff," he said during the debate on the Queen's speech.

His warning came in the wake of the prime minister's remark on Wednesday that time was running out for President Saddam Hussein and that if he did not get out of Kuwait soon Britain and her allies would remove him by force.

Mr Hurd was speaking soon after Mr Benn had announced a personal peace mission in response to a suggestion from the Iraqi government. He declared that he hoped to encourage the idea of a negotiated settlement and avert the danger of war, and help towards the release of more hostages. But Mr Hurd used

his Commons speech to deliver an appeal to him to think again. "If he goes he is joining in a games where the aggressor dictates the rules and selective human beings are the pawns."

The Labour leadership distanced itself from Mr Benn's trip. Gerald Kaufman, the shadow foreign secretary, said: "He will be going on a personal visit."

Mr Benn defended his trip: "The main object is explicitly political in character and my going has been made more urgent by the blind refusal of the American, British and other governments to seek a solution by direct negotiation."

He said an attack on Iraq would mean massive casualties. "The price of oil could rise and destroy the economies of the Third World."

□ In Baghdad, the British embassy said last night eight British construction workers and a Scottish student aged 19 held in Iraq have been given permission to leave. It could not confirm a prediction by Edward Heath, former British prime minister, that Iraq would free at least 30 more Britons next week.

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Moscow hints at support for force

From SUSAN ELLICOTT IN WASHINGTON

THE Soviet Union, whose co-operation with the United States has been crucial in building an international anti-Iraq coalition, yesterday gave its strongest indication yet that Moscow would support the use of force against President Saddam Hussein's troops if peaceful measures fail to drive them out of Kuwait.

Asked about the possible use of force, after nine hours of talks in Moscow with James Baker, the US Secretary of State, Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet foreign minister, said "probably this could not be ruled out and a situation could emerge which effectively would require such a move."

Mr Shevardnadze's comments came as the United States forged ahead with its twin-track Gulf policy by preparing to commit thousands of army troops and hundreds of tanks to the region from Europe, while looking to draw up a UN resolution that would authorise the use of force against Iraq. Richard Cheney, the US Defence Secretary, is expected to issue orders within a week for further armoured divisions to leave Germany for the Gulf. Such divisions contain almost 20,000 troops but can account for as many as 40,000 people, including support staff.

The developments indicate that Washington is shoring up its military and diplomatic approach aimed at driving Iraq's troops out of Kuwait as Mr Baker nears the end of an eight-day diplomatic mission to the Middle East and Europe to confer with allies about a possible timetable for military action.

The Bush Administration has repeatedly said it would prefer a peaceful solution but, as US officials lose faith that a trade embargo alone will enforce compliance, they are

Continued on page 22, col 5

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Oil giants announce big profits

By KEVIN EASON MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

TWO of Britain's biggest oil companies were last night accused of profiteering after making big profits during the situation in the Gulf.

Shell announced net third-quarter profits up nearly 70 per cent at £1.1 billion, an increase of £614 million, while BP profits almost quadrupled, up to £822 million from £211 million for the same period last year.

The increases were criticised by Frank Dobson, Labour's energy spokesman. "This goes to show how much the oil companies are profiteering out of the Gulf crisis," he said. Petrol prices have increased by almost 30p a gallon since the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait on August 2.

Shell said that most of the increased profits resulted from higher prices being paid for existing stocks of oil.

Profits rise, page 23

1,200 Clyde steel jobs go

British Steel is to close its Clydesdale tube works early next year, with the loss of 1,200 jobs. The decision was greeted with anger among union leaders and Scottish MPs.

Holiday clean-up

Tour operators from 13 European countries want the EC to pay for a programme to remove lagers and reverse the damage caused by years of tourist pollution.

Albania switch

Facing increasing unrest, President Aliu of Albania is proposing political reforms which could remove the communist party from power.

Gandhi refuses

Rajiv Gandhi, the former Indian prime minister, rejected an offer to form a new government and said he would support Chandra Shekhar, leader of a breakaway group of the outgoing governing party.

Durrell dies

Lawrence Durrell, author of the *Alexandria Quartet* series of novels about his life in pre-war Egypt, has died in Somerville, France. He was 78.

£1.9bn takeover

STC, the telecommunications group, has agreed a £1.9 billion takeover from its largest shareholder, Northern Telecom of Canada.

Tennis appeal

Andrew Castle, the British Davis Cup player, is to appeal against a £2,400 fine and ban imposed for a political protest on court.

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Howe rekindles leadership issue

By PHILIP WEBSTER AND NICHOLAS WOOD

SIR Geoffrey Howe rekindled the Tory leadership debate last night when he openly contradicted claims by the prime minister that his resignation was caused solely by differences over her style of government.

The former deputy prime minister again took MPs by surprise by issuing his first public statement since his departure and announcing that he had gone for reasons of substance as well as style.

In his statement last night Sir Geoffrey said: "I shall be seeking an opportunity in the course of the next few days to explain in the House of Commons the reasons - of substance as well as style - which prompted my difficult decision. There will be plenty of opportunity over the months ahead to think about the best way of combining my future service of the Conservative cause, with the continued

representation of this important and lively constituency."

His move is likely to cause tremors in Downing Street. Mrs Thatcher's supporters have been discounting the possibility of a wounding intervention from Sir Geoffrey.

As nominations opened for the annual leadership election he intrigued MPs by formally declaring that he would give his reasons for his resignation in a speech to the Commons "in the next few days." He is expected to make his first backbench contribution for two decades next Tuesday or Wednesday in the continuing debate on the Queen's speech.

Several MPs have urged Sir Geoffrey through approaches to his close associates to stand for the leadership against Mrs Thatcher. He has said, again through friends, that he does not intend to do so. MPs

remarked last night that his statement made no direct reference to his stance on the leadership question. But it contained a suggestion that he intends to take some months thinking about his future.

In his resignation letter he told Mrs Thatcher that the mood she had struck in discussions on the European Community made it difficult for Britain to hold and retain a position of influence in the European debate.

In the Commons on Wednesday Mrs Thatcher said that MPs would "very pressed" to find any significant policy differences on Europe between Sir Geoffrey and the rest of the Conservative party.

Last night's meeting of Conservative backbenchers lasted only five minutes and included no discussion of the topic that has been on their lips all week. One senior

backbencher, pointing to the rebuff to Michael Heseltine handed out by his local constituency party, said that there were times when events spoke for themselves.

Cranley Onslow, the chairman of the backbench 1922 committee, who is responsible for organising any leadership contest, began the procedure which continues with the close of nominations next Thursday and any poll on November 20.

He declared that any election was thoroughly undesirable. The overwhelming view among Tory MPs, endorsed by a 45-minute meeting of the 18-strong 1922 executive last night, is that there should be no election. That was also the view last year. It did not prevent a stalking horse finally emerging, but this year, with tension in the Gulf rising, MPs are even more reluctant to rock the boat.

Renoir's false impression of spontaneity

By SIMON TAIT ARTS CORRESPONDENT



The umbrellas shown in a detail from the painting

THE umbrellas that give one of Renoir's most famous paintings its title may have been painted in as an afterthought, scientists believe after an exhaustive examination of the picture.

Several surprising discoveries were made by National Gallery experts after a year studying samples of the paint used by artists in 15 paintings to be shown in the exhibition *Arts in the Making: Impressionism*, which opens on November 28. The complicated make-up of the paints in some of the pictures also gives the lie to the spontaneity that was a hallmark of the Impressionists' work.

John Leighton, curator of 19th-century painting at the National Gallery, believes *The Umbrellas* to be the most complex painting ever examined there, in terms of its layers and structure. "We

have known for some time that the painting was made in two stages, begun in 1881 and not finished until 1885 or even 1886," he said. "Now we see the two definite stages distinguished by the different materials Renoir used. The investigation suggests that the umbrellas belong to the second stage, and the canopy of umbrellas which give the painting its shape was added then."

Using energy dispersive x-ray microanalysis, Ashok Roy, head of the gallery's scientific department, found up to 14 different layers of paint at some points on the painting; they could be divided into two periods perhaps up to five years apart.

In the earlier application Renoir used cobalt to make his blues, but in the later one had switched to the newer French ultramarine. "All of the umbrellas we have examined were painted with ultra-

marine," Dr Roy said. The National Gallery's laboratory is one of the world's most technologically advanced. Radiographs looked at paint samples smaller than a pinhead, mounted a dozen at a time on blocks the size of a shirt button and projected on to a monitor.

"Umbrellas seems to be a complete contradiction of the Impressionist style," Mr Leighton said. "One of the things that intrigues from these results is that this notion of spontaneity has actually been the result of considerable labour to achieve a spontaneous effect."

"Great care was taken in preparing the material and mixing the paints and while preliminary work might have been done on the scene, it seems a lot of the building up of layers was done afterwards in the studio."

Heritage under threat, page 3

The Times Saturday Review

Godfather of the fiddle



Isaac Stern is the bashful Svengali behind the success of Nigel Kennedy and other young players who have put the violin back on top of the instrumental pile

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Robinson: almost certain to become new president

Ireland waits to honour its first woman president

By EDWARD GORMAN
IRISH AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

MARY Robinson, the human rights lawyer, mother of three and former member of the Irish Senate, looked certain last night to become Ireland's first woman president.

As constituency first count results started to come in, it became clear that Brian Lenihan, the Fianna Fail candidate and her main rival, had not done well enough to stave off defeat on the second count. First count results in

25 of the 41 constituencies put Mr Lenihan on 43.8 per cent of the vote, Mrs Robinson on 40.1 per cent, and Austin Currie, the former SDLP politician and Fine Gael candidate, back on 16.2 per cent. The total valid turnout was put at 63.2 per cent.

Although the result will not be confirmed until after a second count today, Mr Lenihan had all but conceded defeat while Mrs Robinson was promising to honour her campaign pledge to be a relevant, accessible and resourceful

president. Mrs Robinson, aged 46, the nominated candidate of the Irish Labour party, appeared to have beaten Mr Lenihan in greater Dublin, and transfers among Mr Currie's second preference votes nationally were going to her at rates varying between three to one and seven to one.

Mrs Robinson's historic victory is the second major humiliation for Fianna Fail and its party leader Charles Haughey, the prime minister, in just over a year.

In the general election last year

the party was forced into its first coalition government after having failed for the fifth time under Mr Haughey's leadership to win an outright majority. Now, after the damaging "Dublingate" affair, it has lost a presidential campaign for the first time.

Mr Lenihan, reluctantly dismissed by Mr Haughey as deputy prime minister and defence minister just over a week ago, had earlier enjoyed what appeared to be an unassailable lead. Observers now believe that his defeat will lead

to a leadership challenge against Mr Haughey before the next general election. Emergent voting patterns showed Mrs Robinson to be benefiting not only from support of the Labour party but also, as expected, from very large numbers of women and from traditional Fine Gael and Progressive Democrat voters.

Her victory is being seen by her supporters as a signpost to a new Ireland reflected in her progressive

views on controversial issues such as abortion, divorce, homosexuality and the church, as against Mr Lenihan's traditional values. It will not be known until the next election, however, to what extent the parties of the left will benefit from this possibly temporary coalescence of interest.

The election has been an unmitigated disaster for Alan Dukes, the Fine Gael leader, now seen as the most vulnerable of the Republic's party leaders and almost certain to face a challenge next year.

Anger over British Steel decision to close tube works

By KERRY GILL

BRITISH Steel's decision yesterday to close the Clydesdale tube works with the loss of 1,200 jobs has sparked anger among union leaders and Scottish MPs. The closure, to take place early next year, will coincide with the shutdown of the nearby Ravenscraig strip mill, with 770 redundancies.

The company said that it could no longer support losses at the works in Bellshill, Lanarkshire, caused by a world surplus of seamless tubes of the type made at Clydesdale. Harry Carlin, secretary of the joint shop stewards committee, was stunned by the decision. On Wednesday, he had hoped British Steel would modernise the plant to compete with growing imports from Germany, Japan and Italy, particularly to serve the booming North Sea oil and gas industries.

"I am absolutely disgusted. British Steel have betrayed us. They could have saved 1,200 jobs. Now the work done here will go abroad," he said. British Steel says that it would cost £100 million to replace the works, but the unions claim that £12 million would make it competitive.

Malcolm Rifkind, Scottish secretary, who yesterday faced calls to save what remains of the Scottish steel industry, said that the closure would be a bitter blow to the area, but not entirely unexpected. Yesterday, he told the Commons: "The proposed closure of Clydesdale is a matter of great regret and a very serious blow for the town of Bellshill. There has been a general awareness that Clydesdale had been operating in a very difficult market and making losses for some time."

Scottish Office sources confirmed that Sir Robert Sch-

oley, chairman of British Steel, told Mr Rifkind of the closure plans at a meeting on Wednesday. The Scottish Development Agency is to report next month on the prospects for Scotland's steel industry, including the Clydesdale plant.

John Reid, Labour MP for Motherwell North, whose constituency includes the plant, said: "It represents the betrayal of a dedicated workforce who have, over the past few years, increased productivity, enhanced quality and improved delivery times of their product, all against a background of investment starvation."

If the steel closures continue, he added, the Lanarkshire travel-to-work area would soon have 40 per cent male unemployment.

British Steel said that talks would be held with union leaders with a view to closure taking place early next year. The Imperial Works at Airdrie, which employs about 200 people, will continue finishing imported steel pipes.

The company said it had tried to find an alternative



Rifkind: announcement not entirely unexpected

solution, such as teaming up with another manufacturer from abroad, but attempts to do so had proved unsuccessful. The closure could cause up to 5,000 other job losses because of the effects on local amenities and services.

Ian Livingstone, chairman of the Lanarkshire Development Agency, said that it was essential for funds to be made available from the new Scottish Enterprise organisation to get new business and training underway.

John Lafferty, union convenor, said: "We feel devastated. British Steel have not done all they can; they have made sanctimonious noises, but that is all."

Mr Rifkind said: "Fortunately, Lanarkshire unemployment has fallen significantly in recent years, but it remains too high, and these job losses will be an unwelcome addition. I shall be asking my officials, the Scottish Development Agency and the local enterprise company to consider urgently the consequences for the area and its needs."

Alex Salmond, leader of the Scottish National party, called on steel unions to take industrial action to defend Scottish plants, and accused British Steel of wanting to become an importer and steel stockholder. He demanded a government enquiry into the company's monopoly in Scotland.

Hours after British Steel's announcement, the Bull computer company said that up to 100 jobs would go at its plant in Newhouse, Lanarkshire. The company, as part of a restructuring programme, is to group all its Scottish operations at a new plant in Livingston, Lothian.



Double act: the Prince of Wales gets an earful of green froth from James Grime, alias John Cleese, in a scene from the training video intended to persuade business and industry to be more environmentally aware

Prince acts on industrial pollution

By ALAN HAMILTON

THE comedian John Cleese has a new co-star in his latest film, *Grime Goes Green*. Cleese plays James Grime, an irascible businessman who refuses to believe that his company is polluting the environment. The Prince of Wales plays himself.

Grime is persuaded to tidy up his factory for an impending royal visit, but is unaware of its noxious emissions or of its opportunities for recycling. "Of course I've heard of the greenhouse effect, but you are not telling me that every time I spray my armpits a tomato ripens in Minnesota," he declares, before going on to rant, Fawcett-like, at a visitor hiding behind a newspaper in reception, thinking him to be a

sanitary inspector. "That important visit you were expecting, you've just had it," the royal newspaper reader says, revealing himself. "If everybody's going to wait for a royal visit before they clean up their act, we'll never get anywhere."

The 20-minute training video is part of a campaign by Business in the Community and launched by the prince yesterday before an invited audience of company chief executives to persuade business and industry to clean up after itself and to be more environmentally aware. The organisation has also produced a 54-page handbook for businessmen explaining the potential environmental dangers of industry and how to deal with them.

Matching action to words, the prince announced that companies that supplied his household would be questioned on their environmental record before his royal warrant was awarded or renewed. Good environmental practice was also good business.

The prince suggested, "There are those who will find any number of reasons for inaction. But the pressure for action is not going to go away, and those who do not move now are going to find themselves lagging behind in a significant area for a very long time. The costs of inaction could be even more expensive, in terms of loss of business and in lack of competitiveness in a fast-moving situation."

Consumers were becoming much less easily fooled by spurious or ignorant "green" claims in product advertising. "The increasing number of consumers who care about these issues are precisely the ones who can unerringly spot eco-waffle and green froth at 50 paces, even while riding their bicycles to work."

The prince urged companies to have an internal examination of performance, seek expert advice on areas of weakness and declare publicly the company's environmental policy, including a statement in annual reports.

Chris Patten, the environ-

ment secretary, welcomed the initiative but said that market forces and reliance on the fabled "green consumer" were not enough by themselves. Regulation was also required and the main thrust of the government's recent environment white paper, which would inevitably bring howls of protest from industry and trade lobbies, was towards energy efficiency and recycling. Britain had done less well than many other countries, particularly in the area of recycling.

Earlier, the Prince and Princess of Wales appeared together in public for the first time in more than two months when the prince chaired a seminar at Merchant Taylors' Hall in the City on the problems of the homeless. The prince, back to a heavy programme of engagements after almost three months nursing a broken arm, has made two important speeches in two days, and flies with the prince to Japan today to represent the Queen at the enthronement of Emperor Akihito.

UK signs new drugs convention

Britain yesterday signed a new European drugs convention giving courts the power to confiscate the assets of convicted drug dealers (Michael Binyon writes).

John Patten, minister of state at the Home Office, signed the convention in Strasbourg. The agreement, signed by 12 West European countries, streamlines enforcement agencies, simplifies the exchange of evidence and information and provides for telephone tapping, surveillance and access to the computer systems of drug suspects. It makes the laundering of drug money a criminal offence.

New town plan

Plans for a market town to house 5,000 people at Michel-dever Station in Hampshire were announced yesterday by the insurance company Eagle Star. The town would be built on 780 acres of a 10,000-acre estate owned by the company. But the county council structure plan contains no provision for a new settlement anywhere in the county.

Life sentences

The government will face renewed pressure to abolish mandatory life sentences for murder in the light of an opinion poll to be broadcast tonight on the BBC2 social affairs programme *Public Eye*. While 47 per cent of those questioned said that a life sentence should remain mandatory for convicted murderers, another 47 per cent said a judge should decide the appropriate sentence.

Valium haul

Police found more than 400,000 Valium tablets, worth about £100,000 on the black market, when they were called to a disused warehouse in Wythenshawe, Greater Manchester, yesterday.

IRA appeal

An IRA hunger striker wanted in Britain to face explosives charges made his final appeal against extradition at the Supreme Court in Dublin yesterday. Dessie Ellis, aged 37, from Finglas, Dublin, is today on the 31st day of his hunger strike in protest at his possible extradition. He believes he would not get a fair trial in Britain. The five Supreme Court judges reserved their decision until "an early date".

Police enquiry

Roger Birch, the Sussex chief constable, is to conduct an enquiry into why the West Midlands serious crime squad headquarters were not sealed, and documents secured when the unit was disbanded last year. It will examine the role of Geoffrey Dear, the former chief constable who broke up the squad, and other senior officers. The enquiry has been requested by the Labour-controlled police authority.

Car plants accept big pay deals

By KEVIN EASON
MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

DOUBLE-figure percentage pay rises were yesterday accepted by 40,000 car workers who make up the most significant bargaining groups in the autumn pay round.

Rover Group's 31,000 hourly paid manual workers were understood to have voted by five to one to accept a two-year package that gives them an 11 per cent rise this year and a further 7.5 per cent next November.

At Jaguar, the 9,000-strong workforce voted narrowly in favour of a two-year deal worth 12.5 per cent this year and 7 per cent or the rate of inflation next year, whichever is the greater.

The Jaguar settlement will involve wide-ranging changes to working practices, now approved by 56 per cent of the workers. They will include flexible shifts and fulfilling stricter daily targets. The Rover deal includes improved sickness benefits and holiday entitlements and three days' paternity leave, and should allow the company two trouble-free years of working.

Haemophiliacs deal is ruled out

By RICHARD FORD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE prime minister yesterday rejected an appeal for the government to settle out of court the compensation claims of haemophiliacs who caught the AIDS virus from contaminated NHS blood.

Margaret Thatcher insisted that compensation had to "remain a matter for the courts to decide". Labour's spokesman for the disabled, Alf Morris, responded: "The government is trying to justify the unjustifiable and defend the indefensible. Mrs Thatcher's statement will cause both anguish and anger among the victims and their families."

David Watterson, general secretary of the Haemophilia Society, said the government had the power to cut red tape and make a settlement. In a letter to Mr Morris, the prime minister said that the government had never disputed its moral responsibility towards the 1,200 affected haemophiliacs and had uniquely paid at least £20,000 each to them. Mrs Thatcher reiterated a commitment to keep the sums "under review" but rejected a no-fault compensation scheme.

● A study suggesting that

breast cancer patients attending a complementary therapy centre faced a greater risk of death from the disease has come under renewed attack.

Flaws in the study at the Bristol Cancer Help Centre are criticised in *The Lancet* today by doctors at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, and by a doctor at the Bristol centre. "A possible outcome is that practitioners of complementary medicine are so alarmed by the possibility of adverse results that the welcome trend towards careful evaluation of the impact of complementary therapies comes to a premature end," the London doctors say.

Dr Tim Sheard, of the Bristol centre, says: "The study is seriously flawed and entirely inconclusive. The number of patients attending the centre has dropped substantially."

The findings, published in September, by the Institute of Cancer Research, showed that Bristol patients who had undergone conventional treatment were twice as likely to die as similar patients who did not attend the centre.

Soviet lesson in nuclear bans

By KERRY GILL

MAYOR Aleksandr Ivanov and his 200 deputies in Archangel could teach Britain's Labour-held councils a thing or two. While our local authorities plaster "nuclear-free zone" stickers on refuse lorries, the people of Archangel have forced their government to scrap plans for a nuclear power station next to their town.

Mr Ivanov announced yesterday that Archangel had declared itself the Soviet Union's first nuclear-free

zone, a move unthinkable a year ago. So far, he said, the authorities had not reacted.

It appears that the Kremlin has more pressing problems than Archangel's decision to monitor and ban all shipments of nuclear weapons and fuel through the White Sea port.

The irony of Mr Ivanov's success was not lost on Strathclyde region, the biggest local authority in Europe. Strathclyde became a nuclear-free zone almost a decade ago. Yet

today, as Iain Macdonald, a local councillor, admitted, the region held possibly the biggest concentration of nuclear weapon facilities in Europe.

No wonder councillors in Glasgow, hosting the fifth international conference of nuclear free zone local authorities, looked envious. It appeared that a local soviet enjoyed more autonomy than a Scottish regional or district council.

CND confident, page 5

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Universities 'failing to protect their national treasures'

By JOHN O'LEARY, HIGHER EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

NATIONAL treasures housed in universities are in jeopardy because of underfunding and a failure to appreciate the care that archives require, a report published yesterday says.

A three-year study by archivists and university librarians found that universities held a "significant and irreplaceable part of the national heritage". The collections, which include the papers of Charles Darwin at Cambridge, the George Orwell archive at University College, London, and trade union records at Warwick, were said to be fundamental to the pursuit of original research.

The 70-page report said there were disturbing signs that the achievements of university repositories were being endangered. "Shortfalls in cash have resulted in the abandonment or delaying of

plans for vital new or upgraded accommodation and difficulty in addressing cataloguing backlogs."

The survey found that collections varied from examples of the earliest written texts in English to the records of modern industry and science, as well as those of several Anglican dioceses and the Methodist church. Oxford and Cambridge hold major estate records from medieval times. Other collections have been attracted because universities are deemed suitable for the deposit of records accepted by the nation in lieu of tax.

Authors of the report believe that universities and colleges underestimate the value of their collections as a research resource. Sheffield University is said to have had no archivist since 1982 and

Reading none since 1985. Records have slipped down the list of priorities for library and archive staff who are already stretched to sustain services for increasing numbers of readers.

Among the institutions criticised were Oxford and Cambridge, which were found to have a generally low level of facilities, and Royal Holloway and Bedford New College, London, where the situation was said to be "more than grave". Both Cambridge and London were recommended to consider sharing resources to appoint peripatetic archivists.

Half the 137 replies to a survey carried out as part of the study reported cuts in opening hours, while a quarter spoke of a lack of staff and cataloguing backlogs. The report recommended that the National Council of Archives establish guidelines for university collections, and for those universities that did not meet the criteria to consider collaborating or amalgamating with other institutions.

The report also found shortcomings on the conservation of collections. Three of the largest repositories said that they had insufficient funds to carry out adequate work while another 15 said they normally did not undertake conservation at all. Most universities were raising money privately both for conservation and cataloguing, but several were worried that this would not be enough to prevent deterioration.

In an appeal to the Universities Funding Council for more money to preserve the collections, the authors warn that more account should be taken of the cost of maintaining the "invisible gold" in university strongrooms to secure the inheritance of future generations.

Nottingham University, which holds D.H. Lawrence's papers, has beaten off international competition to secure some previously unknown manuscripts, *The Times Higher Education Supplement* reports today.

The novelist was shunned by his old university after his affair with the wife of Nottingham's professor of modern languages, but is now to have a research centre named after him. The papers have been described by Lawrence scholars as "extraordinarily exciting".

Sedgemoor 'hides behind privilege'

BRIAN Sedgemoor, the Labour MP, was yesterday accused by a defence lawyer in his High Court libel action of habitually "savouring" other people's reputations while hiding behind the cloak of parliamentary privilege.

The allegation was made by Richard Hartley, QC, in his closing submissions for Robert Kilroy-Silk, the television presenter, and *The Times*, who deny defaming Mr Sedgemoor in an article about the Salman Rushdie affair.

Mr Hartley told Mr Justice Michael Davies and the jury that when Mr Sedgemoor, the MP for Hackney South and Shoreditch, criticised someone he did it in a particularly unpleasant way. "He accuses well-known people of serious criminal offences. He fires from the hip and, by gosh, he is proud of it."

Mr Sedgemoor's claims against the defendants were "a bit rich coming from a person who habitually makes a practice of savouring other people's reputations", Mr Hartley said. "He does not make comments. He makes plain statements of fact. He does it behind the cloak of parliamentary privilege. He knows when he does that, and makes those allegations, he cannot be sued." Mr

Sedgemoor claims that Mr Kilroy-Silk's column in *The Times* in January last year portrayed him as man prepared to throw away the principles of a lifetime to save his political reputation. He says that the article meant he was prepared to support an extension of the blasphemy law to cover religions other than Christianity because he was afraid of losing the Muslim vote in his constituency.

Mr Sedgemoor had said that as a life-long atheist and libertarian he had always campaigned for the abolition of the law.

Mr Kilroy-Silk, who was Labour MP for Knowsley North until 1986, and *The Times* say that the article was fair comment.

Edward Garnier, for Mr Sedgemoor, told the jurors that the defence had asked them to come to the ludicrous conclusion that the article was not defamatory. He also rejected the allegation that Mr Sedgemoor savoured reputations behind the cloak of parliamentary privilege. The defendants could not hide behind what was said during Mr Hartley's closing speech.

"If they want to stick the knife in and twist it, they must expect Mr Sedgemoor to take offence," the judge is due to sum up to the jury today.

Legal fees disclosure rule denied

By FRANCES GIBB
LEGAL AFFAIRS
CORRESPONDENT

PROPOSALS that solicitors should be under a professional duty to tell clients of their charging rates at the start of any business were narrowly rejected by the Law Society council yesterday.

It voted by 35 votes to 33 not to compel solicitors to tell clients the likely basis of their charges at the start of a case by way of a new practice rule. Instead, council members agreed that solicitors should be persuaded in practice guidelines to disclose rates.

Yesterday's rejection of the move to compel solicitors to give information on costs will be a blow to consumer bodies that have been urging such a rule. It also flies in the face of a proposal by two Law Society committees for such a rule. It had been hoped that if adopted, the rule would have helped to cut complaints to the Solicitors Complaints Bureau, now 18,000 a year.

Solicitors are required under professional standards to give clients the best information on likely costs. However, a rule was recommended as that guidance had failed to have much impact.

Ex-addicts act to sue drug firms

By LIN JENKINS

MORE than 2,500 former tranquilliser addicts are to ask a High Court judge today to allow them to jointly sue two companies that produce benzodiazepines.

If successful the subsequent case would be the largest personal injuries action to be launched in England involving compensation claims totalling millions of pounds.

The hearing before Mr Justice Kennedy will be held in Bristol in chambers. The action is being brought by 547 firms of solicitors in a co-ordinated action that began when one victim walked into a solicitor's office in Nottingham in February 1987.

The victims say the manufacturers marketed Valium and Ativan in spite of the lack of evidence that their use over long periods was beneficial and that there was a risk that long-term use would lead to dependency on the drugs.

Solicitors for the former addicts had hoped that the companies, Wyeth Laboratories, a British subsidiary of the American Home Products Group, the makers of Ativan, and Roche Products, the Swiss-owned makers of Valium, would avoid going to court by setting up a compensation scheme. The

large number of people involved in the action are partly the result of a hotline set up by the Law Society that was inundated by people demanding action. Paul Balan, a solicitor on the steering committee, said those bringing the action came from all walks of life. "Addiction goes right across the sexes, ages and professions and involves quite a lot of men."

When launched in the 1960s benzodiazepines were heralded as a wonder drug and 40 million prescriptions were issued a year. Concern over their long-term effects began 10 years ago with a study by Professor Malcolm Lader of the Institute of Psychiatry and fears about their addictive qualities saw prescriptions fall by almost half by last year.

Pam Armstrong, co-ordinator of the Council for Involuntary Tranquilliser Addiction, said the legal action would highlight the problems associated with the drugs and increase awareness among the public and medical profession about the dangers.

Miss Armstrong said victims had to be taught to cope with stress through intensive counselling and relaxation therapy to avoid their going back on to the drugs.

Church papers figure it out

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS REPORTER

TWO of Britain's leading Roman Catholic newspapers have made their peace after a dispute over readership figures. *The Catholic Herald* had rebuked *The Universe* for publishing an inflated readership figure of 630,000 in an advertisement, that the paper now confesses was a mistake.

The Universe, a popular weekly tabloid which sells in Britain and outside the Vatican, has an average issue readership of 154,000, according to the Joint Industry Readership Surveys (Jicars). The publishers, who claim the readership is closer to 450,000, admitted, however, that the inflated figure had been a miscalculation.

A space-filler advertisement in an edition last month

boasted: "Reach 630,000 readers every week through *The Universe*, Britain's best-selling religious newspaper."

It was noticed by a member of the *Herald's* advertising staff, who tried to discover on what research the new readership figure was based. *The Herald*, which is distributed by *The Universe*, is a weekly quality broadsheet with a circulation of 21,400 and a readership of about 35,000.

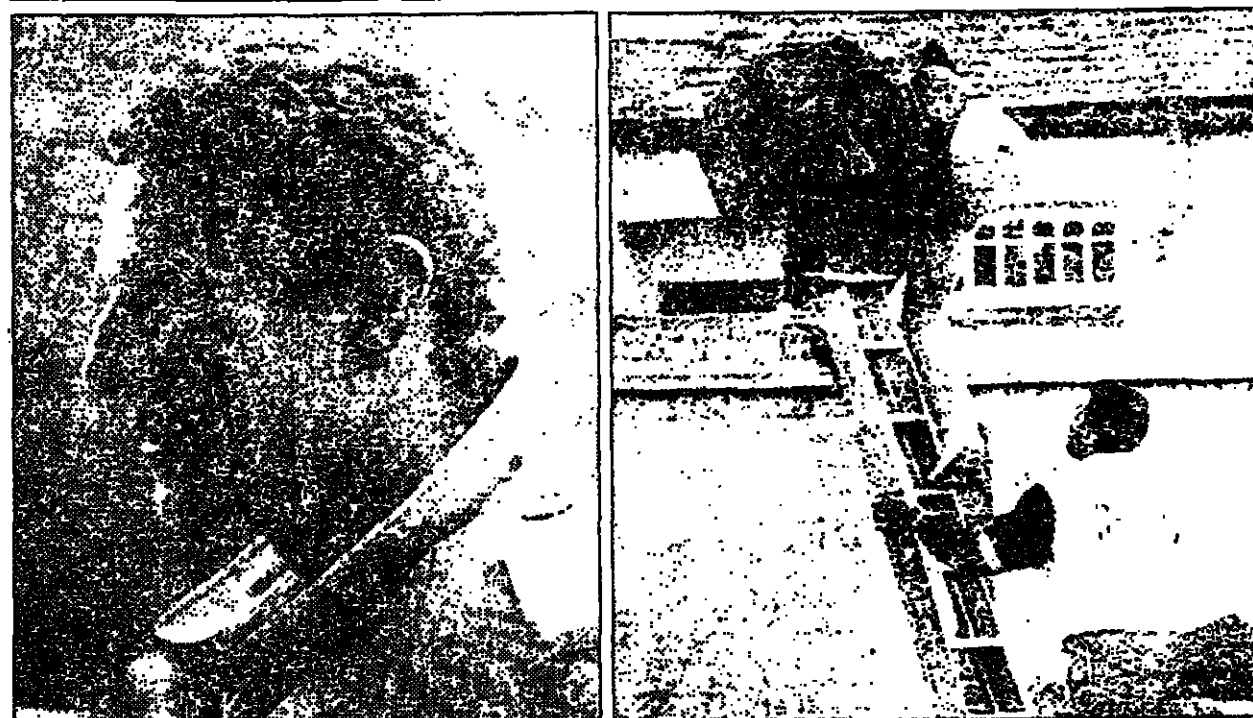
Peter Stanford, editor of the *Herald*, said: "It is hard to get advertising at the moment. In an area such as the religious press, one has to be scrupulous and honest. We were just a bit upset that they were using a figure we did not understand."

Janet Mayhew, secretary of Jicars, said that it had been contacted by the *Herald* and

that the matter was to be discussed today.

The companies appear, however, to have forgiven each other. Phil Redeyoff, managing director of Gabriel Communications which publishes *The Universe*, said its 450,000 readership estimate was calculated on four or five readers per issue sold, a high multiplier based partly on the size of Catholic families.

He said the problem with the inflated readership figure arose when a staff member mistook the national readership survey figure of 154,000 for the circulation figure and applied the multiplier. "From being fairly upset about the way it was treated, we are now saying neither of us [the companies] are upset. There is no row," he said.



Now you see him... Terry Marsh, bottom left, arriving at court yesterday. Now you don't... Mr Marsh goes up the wall to reach a restaurant after his acquittal on Wednesday and, top, is back under wraps as he leaves court yesterday

Marsh may face mortgage charges

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

POSSIBLE charges against Terry Marsh concerning a mortgage application are being considered by the Crown Prosecution Service, it was disclosed yesterday as the former world boxing champion celebrated his acquittal for attempted murder.

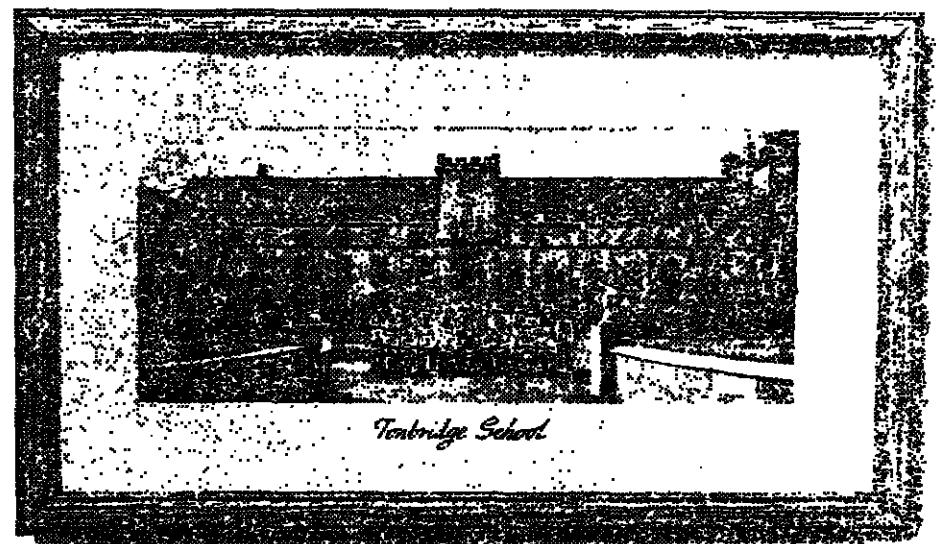
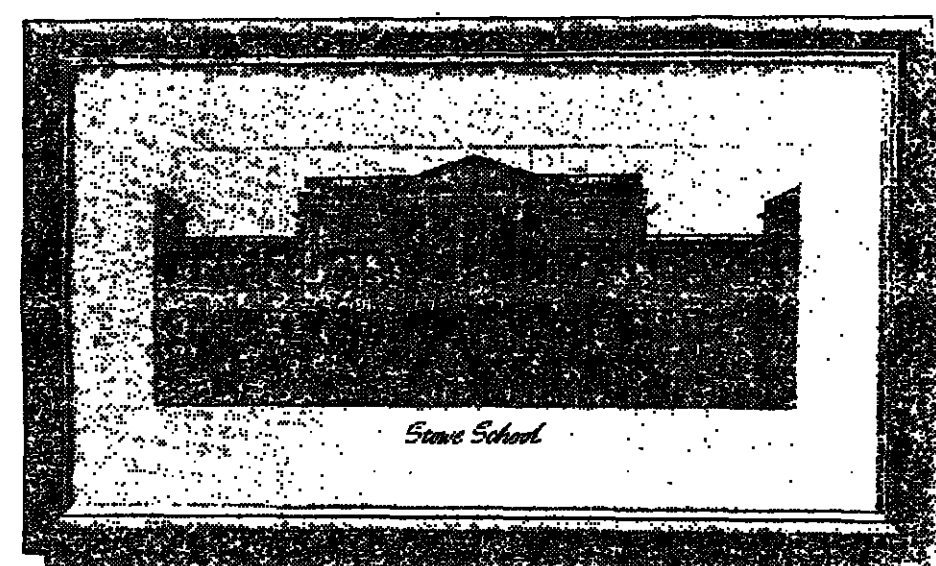
A report from police who discovered documents while investigating the shooting of Mr Marsh's former manager Frank Warren is being studied. The report is believed to relate to a £37,000 mortgage application on the family home in Basildon, Essex, and it is understood that the CPS will reach a decision soon.

The disclosure coincided with Mr Marsh's return yesterday to the Central Criminal Court where a jury cleared him on Wednesday of attempted murder. He faced a charge of unlawfully possessing ten rounds of 9mm ammunition which Ann Cumow, QC, for the prosecution, asked to be left on file.

Mr Justice Fennell said he was entirely content that that was a proper course to take and told Mr Marsh that he was free to go.

Later the CPS defended its decision to prosecute Mr Marsh over the shooting of Mr Warren, aged 38, as he arrived at the Broadway theatre in Barking, east London, on November 30 last year.

A spokesman said: "We consider it was a properly brought prosecution. It was committed for trial by a magistrate. There was an application by the defence at the end of the prosecution evidence for the charge to be withdrawn but this was rejected by the trial judge."



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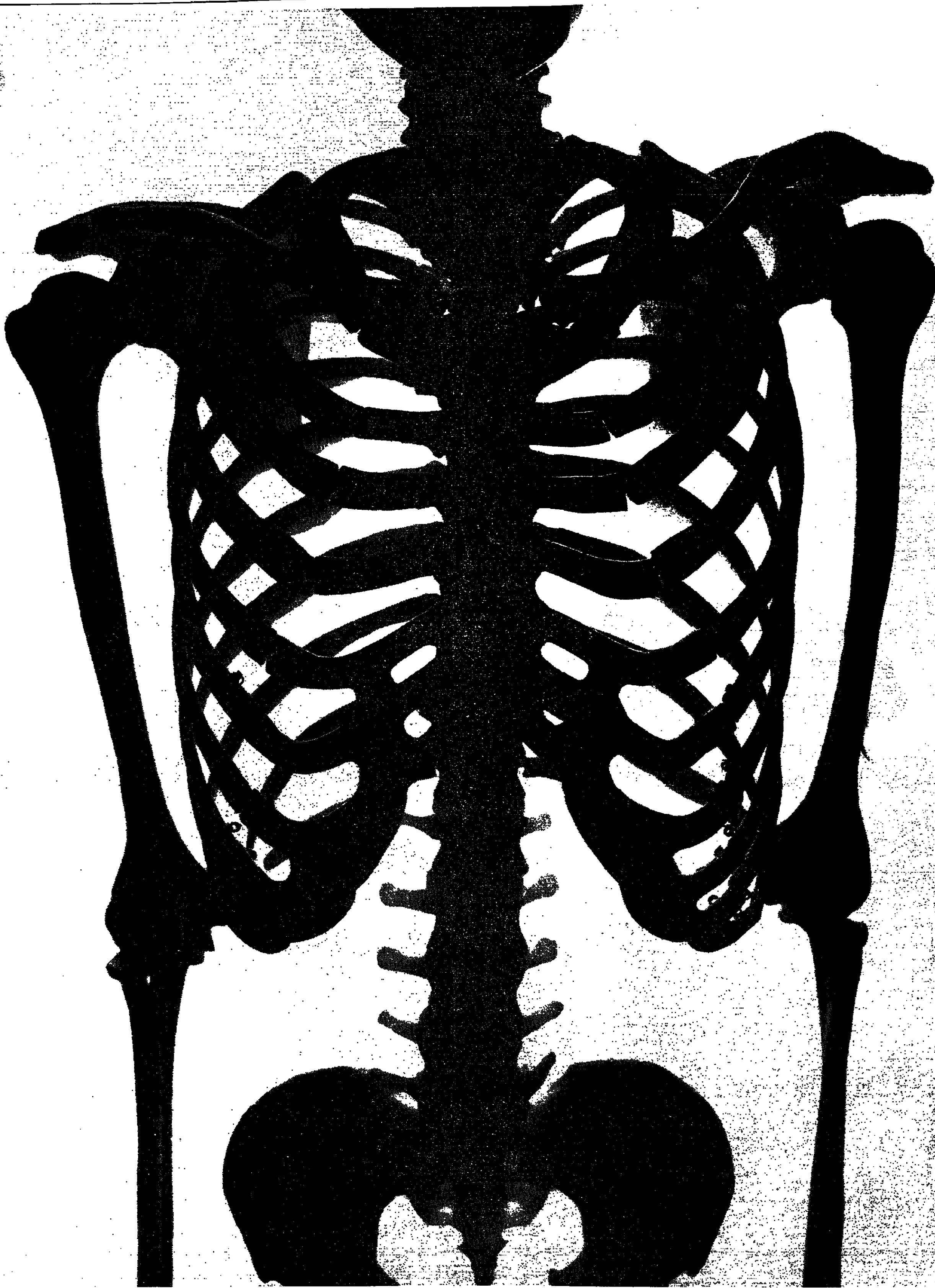
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Travel firms launch crash plan to end 'lager lout' tourism

FROM HARVEY ELLIOTT, AIR CORRESPONDENT, IN BUDAPEST

EUROPE's travel industry, which annually sends 33 million holiday-makers to Mediterranean resorts, is launching a two-year crash programme to rid the region of lager louts and reverse the damage caused by years of growing tourist pollution.

Tour operators from 13 European countries are appealing for EC funds to develop an action blueprint that could transform the image of a package holiday. They have been encouraged by a local action plan in San Antonio, Ibiza, which in less than two years has driven out hooligans, using a range of often

subtle developments in "social engineering".

The tour operators have received official approval from the Majorcan authorities to carry out an island-wide experiment that could become the model for tourist centres in the Mediterranean.

Martin Brackenbury, from the tour operators study group, who takes over as president of the International Federation of Tour Operators at the end of this month, said: "This is the single most important project we have ever undertaken because it looks at all the problems of the Mediterranean in an integrated way."

Throughout the week-long convention of Association of British Travel Agents in Budapest there was a growing awareness that the industry may be close to destroying its long-term future through overdevelopment and by attracting the worst form of visitor to popular resorts.

Yesterday the 2,500 delegates were given a bleak vision of the future by the broadcaster Michael Buerk, who described the tourist industry as an industrial assembly line. He said: "Spain started the tourist revolution and is perhaps the first to face its consequences. If they do not do something they will be left with a tiny proportion of troublesome tourists and a ruined coastline."

Now that the message has sunk in, such action is on the cards. The task force set up by the tour operators' federation has called in a research team that advised Britain's brewing industry and whose ideas have led to a 40 per cent decline in the amount of public house disorder in Britain. It has also called in psychologists from Leicester university who advised the Football Association

on dealing with hooliganism and whose ideas might help to solve the problem of violence in Greece. The ideas being mooted include minor changes, such as siting pin-ball machines away from busy bars, to large developments that would cost the Costa del Sol alone more than £700 million over three years.

The first Majorcan town to be tackled by the team will be Magaluf, which has developed a horrendous image, resulting in an even sharper decline in bookings than the 20 per cent reduction experienced by Spain as a whole. Old two-star hotels are to be demolished, rundown areas flooded to create a new marina, millions of trees are being planted and bars that attract lager louts by advertising "happy hour" cheap drinks are being closed.

Mr Brackenbury said: "The Spanish authorities, working closely with the tour operators, have already shown what can be done, and a sea change has taken place in the town already this year which should result in a big increase in family tourists who do not cause trouble next year."

"If we can build on that and create a model in Majorca which could be followed everywhere, we may at last see a way out of the problems being caused by the very success of the industry."

A special low-cost air fare from Glasgow to New York, allowing up to two weeks' stay in the United States, has been introduced by British Airways. The "Late Saver" fare will cost £319 for the round trip, provided the booking is made within two days of travel.

It will be introduced on November 12 and will be on sale up to March 10 next year, excluding the period from December 12-24.

A new era holds few fears for CND

CND shows a confident face, Jamie Dettmer reports

A PRESSURE group that loses 40 per cent of its membership in six years could be forgiven for feeling gloomy but the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament seems, on the surface, to entertain few doubts about its future as it prepares to enter the brave and complicated new world of post-cold war politics.

The days when CND could attract tens of thousands of protesters onto the streets of London have gone. The so-called women's peace camp outside the RAF base at Greenham Common is still there but its *raison d'être* will come to an end even for the most hardened anti-nuclear campaigner when the last cruise missile is sent back to America in January.

Even so, as the fear of nuclear conflict between East and West subsides and the superpowers discuss arms cuts, CND says it still has a crucial role to play in furthering nuclear disarmament and has no intention of packing up its bags. "It has been a year of achievement and hope mixed with some frustration," says the campaign's 1989/90 report which will be debated at CND's annual conference in Coventry at the weekend.

The report says the media is the cause of the frustration because of its insistence that CND's role is over. "There is no need to be modest about our achievements," it says. The report goes on to claim that CND is part of the reason for the changes in Europe. The campaign's opponents dismiss the claim and say that CND has failed to appreciate the break-up of the communist empire



had a lot to do with pressure on the Soviet economy in the arms race with America.

The campaign's leaders reject suggestions that the fall in membership from 100,000 in 1984 to 63,000 now shows that its future is anything but rosy.

At a time when CND needs to redefine its role, it is losing two of its best-known and most effective leaders: Meg Beresford, the general secretary, who is returning to academic life, and Bruce Kent, the former Roman Catholic priest who has decided to concentrate his

efforts on becoming a Labour MP rather than continue as the campaign's chairman.

Mr Kent insisted yesterday that the campaign is as relevant today as in the mid-eighties. "The Gulf crisis has brought together all the issues — deterrence, arms sales, the United Nations and human rights — in one boiling saucepan. When these kind of problems are solved worldwide, perhaps CND's work will be over."

At the weekend Mr Kent is likely to be replaced by Majorie Thompson, aged 33, a dynamic American who

was CND's parliamentary officer for several years and who built a lobbying system in the Commons that was the envy of every other pressure group.

Ms Thompson acknowledges that the membership drop is worrying and she sees her job as "reviving CND's fortunes". She believes that CND will have to move away from campaigning against single nuclear missile systems and wants to see it develop into a more general anti-war movement. She is aware, however, of the dangers of CND adopting a full-

hearted pacifist policy, alienating ex-service members.

The anti-war approach would concentrate on the development of high-technology weaponry and the spread of arms to the Third World. Further efforts will be concentrated on CND taking a prominent role in the debate about the peace dividend.

How galvanised the public will be by arguments for a radical weakening of British forces in a post-cold-war world that still remains threats remains to be seen.

Sergeant was killed unlawfully

It was a miracle that no one else died when an IRA bomb exploded during London's rush hour killing a soldier, a coroner said yesterday.

Dr David Paul, the Hoxsey coroner, recorded a verdict that Sergeant Charles Chapman, aged 34, of the 3rd Battalion, Queen's Regiment, was unlawfully killed in an explosion in Wembley, north-west London, at about 5.15pm on May 16. The bomb was planted under Sgt Chapman's van, parked in a service road at the rear of an army recruiting office.

Boy shoots sister

A girl aged two was seriously ill in Alder Hey hospital, Liverpool, last night with an heart after being accidentally shot by her 13-year-old brother. Police said that the boy had taken the rifle from his father's locked wardrobe at their home in Blackburn, Lancashire, and had loaded it in his bedroom with the child present. She was hit when he fired across the room.

'Marriage' over

A divorce judge ended a five-year "marriage" yesterday on the ground that the couple were men. When Ian Franklin, aged 29, and his "bride" Harley Jones, aged 29, married at Brent register office, they failed to disclose that Harley Jones was born a man and had had a sex change operation in 1981. Judge Dobry was told that, in law, Harley Jones remained a man and he granted Mr Franklin a nullity decree.

Festival record

Attendances at the Edinburgh Festival this year were the highest since it began in 1947. It made a profit of £112,970 instead of a projected deficit of about £133,000, and wiped out the deficit of previous years. Frank Dunlop, the festival's director, said: "We can only hope that the penalty for balancing the books will not be a disadvantage in the next phase of arts funding."

Sheep return

For the first time in more than 50 years a flock of sheep will be released today on Stockbridge Down, Hampshire, to act as "lawnmowers" and restore its traditional open character. The land has not been grazed since before the last war and has become overgrown with scrub.

Public funds to pay P & O costs

By BILL FROST

P & O European Ferries and seven of its employees, defendants in the Zeebrugge disaster trial which collapsed at the Central Criminal Court last month, were yesterday awarded their costs out of public funds.

Mr Justice Turner, who directed that not guilty verdicts be entered on the 27th day of the manslaughter trial, refused to make a costs order against the Crown Prosecution Service, except for those incurred in two preliminary hearings.

He said that such an order would only be justified if it

was shown that the prosecution's conduct after the committal proceedings constituted unnecessary or improper acts or omissions amounting to an abuse of the processes of law. In his judgment, the prosecution's decision to continue the proceedings fell far short of that which would be necessary before such a finding could be made.

The amount of the total costs bill is thought to be about £1 million. The final estimate will be subject to High Court scrutiny.

The costs order in favour of P & O European Ferries embraces the individual costs of Jeffrey Develin, the chief marine superintendent; John Alcindor, his deputy; Wallace Ayres, technical director; John Kirby, senior master; and David Lewry, master of the Herald. Separate costs orders were made on behalf of Mark Stanley, assistant harbourmaster, and Leslie Sabel, chief officer.

The trial, only the second for corporate manslaughter in Britain's legal history, arose from the disaster involving the Herald of Free Enterprise, which capsized, causing the death of 192 people, as it left Zeebrugge on March 6, 1987.



Mr Justice Turner: found no abuse of law processes

WORLD CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

Karpov and Kasparov all square after New York leg

By RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

THE New York leg of the world chess championship ended early yesterday with Gary Kasparov and Anatoly Karpov each having scored six points. The 12th game was drawn after 37 moves yesterday morning.

The championship now transfers to Lyons, France, where the 13th game will start on November 24. The match, the best of 24 games, has a world record purse of \$3 million (£1.6 million) with \$1.875 million (£1 million) going to the winner and the remainder to the loser.

The opening of the 12th game, with Kasparov, the world champion, playing white, was yet another Ruy Lopez, which has become Kasparov's favourite for the contest. After 20 moves there was an unbalanced position, with Kasparov having given up his central pawn in the king's file in exchange for the possibility of striking at the black king.

After 23 moves Kasparov still exerted a powerful grip but then began to falter. It was more than surprising that he chose to repeat moves with his bishop on moves 24 and 25, effectively wasting a move. This scenario was re-enacted on the 27th move when

Kasparov started to waste time with seemingly pointless queen manoeuvres.

He had probably been tempting Karpov into what looked like a premature and extremely risky freeing manoeuvre on the 29th move. Karpov boldly executed the manoeuvre even though it exposed him to a variety of attacking possibilities. He then banished all possibility of danger with his extremely accurate 34th move.

The close score after 12 games confounds pre-match predictions that Kasparov would win by a large margin. Since they last played in 1987, Kasparov has broken Fischer's international rating record of 2785 with a new high of 2800 in this year's official

world chess federation ranking list. Karpov's rating is 2730.

In the New York section of the match, defensive skills have triumphed over attacking technology. Kasparov seized his chance to pounce in game two when Karpov failed to react with sufficient energy to an opening novelty, while Karpov struck back in game seven when Kasparov blundered in a difficult position.

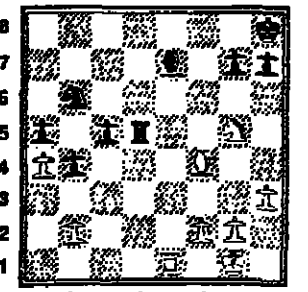
In general the games have been exciting, though after game eight, one of the longest in terms of hours (10n) and moves (84) in a world chess championship, the players became notably tired.

The moves for game 12:

White: Kasparov. Black: Karpov.

White	Black	White	Black
1 e4	a5	20 Bg5	g6
2 Nf3	Nb6	21 Bx6	Nx6
3 Bb5	a6	22 Bg4	h5
4 Be4	Nf6	23 Rxc1	Ng6
5 0-0	Be7	24 Bx5	Rx6
6 Re1	h5	25 Bg4	Rx6
7 Bc3	g5	26 Qc2	h4
8 c3	g4	27 Qc2	Nx7
9 h3	Nd7	28 Qx3	Nx5
10 g4	g6	29 Bxc2	c5
11 a4	Be7	30 Bc1	h4
12 Na3	exd4	31 Qx5	Qx5
13 Qx4	Nx5	32 Qx6	Rx6
14 Bc2	b4	33 Bx4	Re7
15 Ne4	Rx4	34 Nc5	Re5
16 Bxc4	Rx4	35 Bx5	Re5
17 Qd3	Rx4	36 Rxe7	Re7
18 Bx7	Nx4	37 Re1	
19 Bc2	Re7		

The position at the end of play in the 12th game



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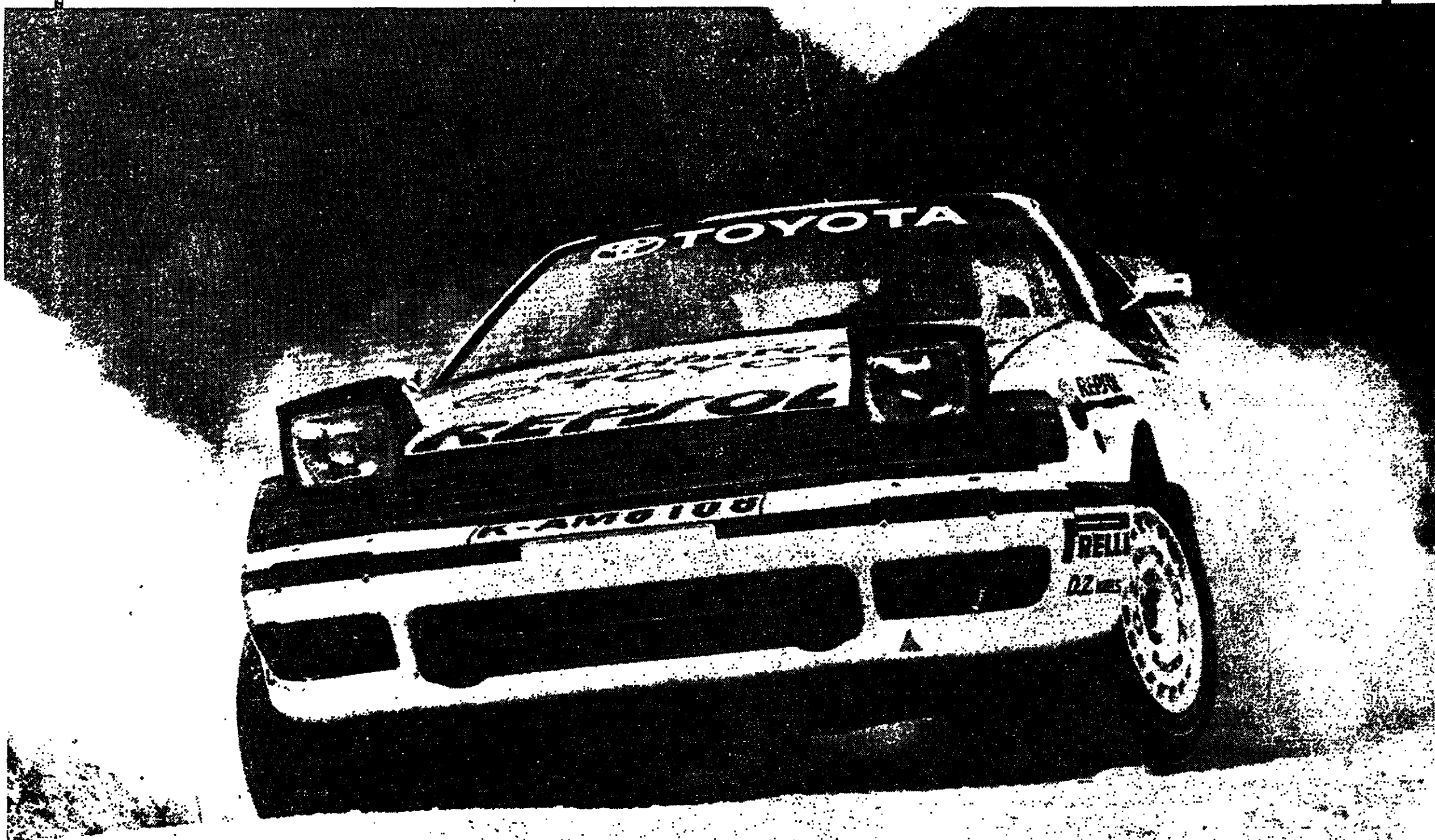
*Executive Travel Awards 1990.

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Congratulations to Carlos Sainz on winning the 1990 World Rally Drivers' Championship in his Toyota Celica GT-Four.

(Climbing it, incidentally, with the RAC Lombard Rally still to come. Catch Carlos there if you can.)

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The last remark is not acceptable, not safe for the V world and the United to walk away from them, leaving the acquisition of any Kuwait or any for his aggression. acceptable, not safe not going to happen. The foreign secretary Tony Benn announced that he had issued an invitation to his dad. "I would like to think again. He is a game where the dictates the rules and human beings are the

Parliament to
Commons (9.30) £
tion of Queen's speech
Industry and transpo

There was extra provision for the government's pro-



Leading article, page 15

that it would fall. Since the country was clearly in a

wrong, and this year 40 per cent wrong.

ent: Alders Dept Stores, Alders Duty Free, Argos, WH Duty Free Shops, W H Smith, Wallace Hay

P S I O N

By NICHOLAS WOOD AND PHILIP WEBSTER

The Treasury's other target after defence was Michael Howard at employment. Like Mr King, he emerged battle-scarred but not beaten. The Treasury had sought cuts of several hundred millions in his training budget. Eventually it had to settle for no change in the employment allocation after taking into

goes yet again to Tony Newton at the social security department. Higher than expected inflation raises the budget by £2.9 billion, lifting the planned figure for next year from £59.9 billion to £62.8 billion.

Chris Patten emerged as early victor in the public spending round when he was

The agriculture budget has been boosted by £240 million to £2.28 billion. The extra money won by John Gummer will be used for projects such as flood protection, compensation for mad cow disease and schemes to enable less intensive use of land.

tion was Rachel Lomax who, as head of the general expenditure policy group, played a key role in shaping the government's public spending plans. It was also her last task before moving on and up through the traditionally male-dominated echelons of the Treasury.

From next week Mrs Lomax, aged 45, takes over a



By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL REPORTER

deputy chief economic adviser working with John Major, the Chancellor, and joining one of five other women at the grade two civil service level, with salary of £53,420. Her colleagues predict that she will reach Whitehall's highest rank of permanent secretary by the end of the decade. Only three women have reached that level in the past 90 years.

During this year's unusually fierce public spending round Mrs Lomax has worked with Norman Lamont, chief secretary to the Treasury, and Nick Monck, permanent secretary on the Treasury

Robin Oakley

about the Gini making things harder than usual to predict, Mr Major forecast growth of only 1 per cent this year with output down in the second half and the "period of weak activity" the probability of Tory reverses in May local elections had always made that unlikely anyway.

Few politicians, after this, will be making forward holiday bookings for May or

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Call Reservation	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Paper Roll Size	30m	30m	30m	100m
Activity Report	No	No	Yes	Yes
Superflow Revolution	No	No	Yes	Yes
CCNY Groups	3	3	3	3

Department	Estimated cutback		New plans		1993-94
	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	
Defence	20.8	20.0	19.9	19.5	18.8
Foreign Office	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9
Overseas Development	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.7
European Community	2.3	1.7	0.9	2.4	1.9
Agriculture/Fisheries/Food	1.5	2.1	2.0	2.0	1.9
Trade and Industry	1.3	1.1	0.9	0.8	0.7
ECGD	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.1	0
Energy	0.5	1.3	0.6	0.6	0.5
Employment	3.8	3.5	3.0	2.8	2.8
Transport	3.6	4.1	4.6	4.5	4.4
DOE - Housing	2.9	6.4	6.4	6.0	6.0
DOE - Environment	1.4	1.4	1.2	1.2	1.2
DOE - PSA	-	0.1	0.1	0	0
DOE - Local Govt	19.4	18.9	20.3	20.0	19.7
Home Office	4.2	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.8
Legal	1.1	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3
Education and Science	5.7	6.1	6.3	6.3	6.2
Arts and Libraries	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Health	20.0	20.9	21.9	22.1	22.3
Social Security	52.2	51.8	54.9	56.4	56.2
Scotland	8.9	9.0	9.7	9.6	9.5
Wales	3.8	4.1	4.3	4.2	4.2
N Ireland	5.7	5.5	5.6	5.7	5.6
Chancellor's	4.2	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4
Others	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4
Reserve	-	-	3.1	5.8	8.5
Privatisation proceeds	-4.2	-4.9	-4.8	-4.6	-4.4
Adjustment	-	0.2	-	-	-
PLANNING TOTAL	162.7	167.2	175.0	173.3	182.2

Department (All figures in £ million)	1988-89 outturn	1990-91 estimate	Change	1991-92 plans	1992-93 plans	1993-94 plans
Defence	20,760	21,580	380	22,800	23,360	23,390
Foreign Office	864	950	50	1,020	1,090	1,130
Overseas Development	1,669	1,750	40	1,910	1,980	2,050
European Community	2,316	1,890	20	1,050	2,870	2,340
Agriculture/Fisheries/Food	1,532	2,270	440	2,280	2,390	2,390
Trade and Industry	1,291	1,230	-40	980	930	880
ECGD	358	390	140	250	130	90
Energy	474	1,420	1,580	970	690	640
Employment	3,770	3,770	0	3,400	3,390	3,440
Transport	3,562	4,380	160	5,210	5,420	5,430
DOE - Housing	2,938	6,880	590	7,280	7,220	7,440
DOE - Environment	1,387	1,560	100	1,430	1,400	1,580
DOE - PSA	-	70	40	90	40	10
DOE - Local Govt	19,358	20,430	-60	23,260	24,000	24,450
Home Office	4,206	5,050	200	5,400	5,630	5,940
Legal	1,137	1,380	90	1,460	1,580	1,660
Education and Science	5,689	6,580	20	7,250	7,540	7,730
Arts and Libraries	446	490	0	560	580	570
Health	20,009	22,540	360	25,090	26,510	27,690
Social Security	52,159	55,900	400	62,800	67,700	72,200
Scotland	8,908	9,740	160	11,060	11,470	11,760
Wales	3,790	4,460	0	4,920	5,080	5,250
N Ireland	5,732	5,910	-20	6,420	6,660	7,170
Chancellor's	4,222	4,700	90	4,990	5,290	5,510
Others	302	340	-20	400	420	440
Reserve	-	-	-3,000	3,500	7,000	10,500
Privatisation proceeds	-4,224	-5,300	-300	-5,500	-5,500	-5,500
Adjustment	-	300	300	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL	199,570	200,000	430	220,000	220,000	220,000

By early 1994 the prison overcrowding problem will be solved. The state has proper sanitation and the process. Next year there will be as many places as needed. Although the accounting still does not match the number of prisoners.

There will be more juvenile offenders than on the other hand. Not enough places for offenders.

CHANCELLOR'S AUTUMN STATEMENT

Roads and rail investment at record level, Parkinson says

By MICHAEL DYNES
TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

INVESTMENT in transport is running higher than at any time since records began, with substantial increases in real terms for British Rail and London Underground, Cecil Parkinson, the transport secretary, said yesterday.

Commenting on the autumn statement, he said that total transport investment in the three years from April 1991 will increase to £16 billion, up from the £14 billion projected for the three year period beginning in April

TRANSPORT

1990. Most of the increase will go to British Rail and London Underground to compensate for the decline in income from passenger receipts and to finance new rail schemes, while spending on roads will keep pace with inflation, Mr Parkinson said.

British Rail's new investment programme for the three years from April 1991 will increase to more than £4 billion, a 58 per cent increase in real terms compared with the previous three years, and the highest level of investment

since 1960, he said. The investment programme will be financed from passenger receipts, income from property sales and lets, and a substantial increase in government loans and grants.

Government loans and grants in the three-year period are expected to increase to £2.9 billion, of which £1.25 billion will be in loans and £1.65 in grants. The increase for 1991-92, for example, represents a 50 per cent increase from the previous year.

The settlement provides British Rail with an additional £330 million for investment in railway safety projects, demanded by the

report into the triple rail crash at Clapham Junction.

Mr Parkinson acknowledged that the government had been forced to increase public funding for the railways to compensate for declining income from fares, although he insisted that the government's target of eliminating all subsidy for Network SouthEast by 1992 remained.

The increases should save some of the investment projects threatened by the squeeze of British Rail's finances, although the details are unlikely to be made public before British Rail publishes its next corporate plan this month.

During the same three-year period, overall investment in London Underground is projected to exceed £3 billion, an increase of 90 per cent in real terms over the previous three years, and £2.5 billion of which will be provided through government grants.

The investment programme includes £164 million for preparatory work for the East-West Crossrail, the £1.4 billion tunnel between Paddington and Liverpool Street; the extension of the Jubilee Line to Stratford via Docklands; the modernisation of the Central Line; the reconstruction of Angel Station, and £400

million in new safety improvements. Investment in motorways and trunk roads will rise to £5.6 billion during the next three years, excluding £400 million for road maintenance, a 25 per cent increase in real terms over the previous three years, although just keeping pace with the rate of inflation compared to 1990-91.

The roads settlement provides additional funds to make an early start on the motorway widening programme; to begin work on introducing the red route system of priority roads for London; and to begin development of driver information systems. By

maintaining expenditure at last year's level, the government is on target to complete the £17 billion national road programme by the end of the decade.

Mr Parkinson said spending on transport was now at an all-time high, "even at a time of tight control of public expenditure." Although it was not possible to do everything at once, "we are focusing on the priorities," he said.

John Prescott, Labour's transport spokesman, said the government would have difficulty in finding the money to make their plans "anything other than paper promises".

Cash boost should bring hospital beds back into use

By JILL SHERMAN
SOCIAL SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

HOSPITALS should be able to reopen many of their beds next year after a £3 billion boost that will take health service spending in the UK to £30.7 billion.

Health authorities in England will get an extra £1.7 billion, representing a real increase of 5 per cent. Total spending in England, including primary health care services, jumps from £22.3 billion to £24.8 billion, a 4.7 per cent real increase.

Even if inflation creeps above the 6 per cent anticipated in the autumn statement, health authorities should have enough money to reopen their beds and develop services, finance officers said yesterday, although the figure falls short of the £5 billion the British Medical Association demanded.

The National Association of Health Authorities and Trusts has estimated that health service inflation will run at 8.6 per cent next year. But even if that were the case, Kenneth Clarke, the former health secretary, has secured enough from the Treasury to allow districts about £500 million for service developments.

William Waldegrave, the new health secretary, said that the government had given the highest priority to health in next year's plans and given it its biggest ever year-on-year increase. "Patients will be the first to benefit," he said. "The NHS reforms are designed to ensure that the increase in re-

sources produces real improvements in service delivery. As we have learnt over the years, more money alone does not solve the problems of the NHS."

Health authorities are expected to find about £175 million in cost improvement measures and income generation schemes next year, which will boost extra spending on the hospital and community services to £1.9 billion, a real increase of 6.1 per cent. The money will have to cover the costs of implementing the health service reforms and central initiatives such as the waiting list fund.

Health authorities have also been given extra capital money, partly to compensate for lower-than-expected land sales. Capital spending goes up from £1.278 million to £1.460 million, bringing the total capital programme to about £1.7 billion, a real increase of 14.2 per cent that includes an expected £240 million from land sales next year. The figure also includes money that will need to be earmarked for NHS trusts.

The hospital services have been given a bigger slice of the cake than before, partly because of the impact of inflation underfunding in previous years which has culminated in this year's bed closures, and partly because of lower-than-expected funding on the family practitioner services. Ministers are expecting GPs to spend £200 million less on drugs than predicted in this year's spending white paper.

Family health services are expected to get an extra £468 million next year, a cash increase of 9 per cent but only 2.9 per cent in real terms over the forecast turnout for this year. Actual spending in 1991-92, allowing for income from prescription and dental charges, will rise to more than £6.3 billion.

Mr Waldegrave said that he expected more patients to be treated next year and for waiting times to improve, but would not be committed to shorter waiting lists. He confirmed the government's commitment to clearing waiting lists over two years.

Mr Duncan Nichol, NHS chief executive, indicated that the number of patients treated in London might fall this year, although there was likely to be an overall increase in activity throughout England.

Pressed on two recent surveys showing that up to 4,500 beds have closed this year, Mr Waldegrave said that bed closures were not related to the level of service provided. Many hospitals were providing day surgery, allowing more patients to be seen in fewer beds.

The National Association of Health Authorities and Trusts welcomed the extra funding and said it should allow a 3.5 per cent growth in services. The Healthcare Financial Management Association said Mr Clarke appeared to have done well. "In a year when public expenditure has clearly been restrained the health service has received an exceptionally good settlement," Peter Longden, the association chairman, said.

"The pressure on resources in 1990-91 and the need for authorities to eliminate their underlying deficits by April 1991 has meant that there has been little room for service developments." However, Mr Longden said that the money would allow for developments next year only if pay and price inflation were roughly at the levels predicted.



Schoolchildren working on a reading project. Kenneth Clarke yesterday announced a £690 million increase in education spending

Straw mocks extra funds as 'peanuts'

By DAVID TYTLER
EDUCATION EDITOR

IN A FLURRY of figures, Kenneth Clarke, the new education secretary, said that in a tight public spending round his predecessor John MacGregor had won a substantial £690 million increase in spending for 1991-2.

"Peanuts," said Jack Straw, Labour's front bench education spokesman, who said that the 4 per cent rise claimed by the government depended on 6 per cent inflation while the current

EDUCATION

rate was above 10 per cent. In his first important announcement as education secretary, Mr Clarke said that the government would spend £7,246 million on schools, higher education and science next year, £690 million more than last year. Nearly £14 billion of the total £17.5 billion will be spent on schools.

The amount to be spent on school buildings will be more than £600 million, a rise of about £77

million. Mr Clarke said: "These increases show that the government gives very high priority to education in what has been a very tight public expenditure round."

Mr Straw said that the 4 per cent rise promised by the government would disappear if inflation went above 6 per cent. "It is peanuts," he said. The amount of extra money being allowed for school buildings and repairs was no more than £77 million while the estimated backlog was £4 billion.

Mr Clarke announced a 10 per cent increase in higher education

spending, which will top £4 billion for the first time in 1991-2. The settlement might allow a small increase in academic staff numbers to cater for 5 per cent more students next year if wages and other costs were curbed.

The settlement gives 1 per cent more recurrent funding to polytechnics and colleges than to universities, as well as a larger capital budget. Mr MacGregor had promised to reward the polytechnics if they continued to make more efficiency gains than universities.

Arts claim increase of £70m

By SIMON TAIT
ARTS CORRESPONDENT

David Mellor's first tangle with the Treasury to win funds for the arts appears to have been a considerable triumph.

He has agreed a global increase for next year of about 14 per cent over this year's figure of £490 million, to £560 million, a rise in real terms of more than 3 per cent over the previous year.

The expected overall increase for 1991-2 was 6 per cent.

Prospects for succeeding years are less promising, and will probably guarantee repeats of the heavy arts lobbying of this autumn. For 1992-3, the projection is for a 3.6 per cent increase to £580 million, and the following year a decrease of 3 per cent.

Mr Mellor will list funding today for the performing arts, museums and galleries, libraries, and his contribution to the heritage funds.

Gulf operation wins increase

Tom King, the defence secretary, has been given another £233 million for the current financial year to help pay for Britain's military effort in the Gulf.

The costs of Operation Granby cannot be totally absorbed in the existing defence budget. So parliament will be asked to approve an increase. The defence budget allocations reflect a downturn in spending over the next four years. Expenditure in 1992/93 will be £23.35 billion, which represents a cut in real terms from the previous year of 2.2 per cent.

Councils will help homeless

The Chancellor announced that an additional £130 million will be spent in the next two years to help the homeless, bringing total government spending on the problem to £300 million.

Of the extra resources, £50 million will enable councils to build and buy properties to house the homeless with a particular emphasis on families without homes. A further £80 million will be paid to housing associations to provide temporary and long term accommodation for those who sleep rough in London.

Adjustment to insurance limit

The upper and lower limits for National Insurance contributions are to be raised from next April slightly above the rate of inflation and employers are to be helped by reductions to offset the proposed restructuring of statutory sick pay, the chancellor announced.

The point at which people will start making National Insurance contributions is to increase from £46 to £52 a week; the upper ceiling from £350 to £390 a week. The upper limits for the reduced employers' rates will also be increased.

Legal aid rise under attack

Government plans to provide for an increase in the legal aid bill of 12.5 per cent for 1991/92 were attacked yesterday by the Law Society. Russell Wainman, an official said: "There is always a rise in demand for legal aid. If the government is going to raise legal aid fees even only by the rate of inflation, 10 per cent, that leaves little scope — just 2 to 3 per cent — for a rise in demand." The total budget announced yesterday for the Lord Chancellor's department programme in the autumn statement was £1,140.8 million, £160 million more than in 1990/91.

Scottish Office training role

Responsibility for training in Scotland is to be switched next year from the employment department to the Scottish Office, which will receive an extra £254 million to pay for it.

Malcolm Rifkind, the Scottish secretary, said that his department's total spending would be £11,060 million compared with £9,740 million during this year, which represents a rise in line with inflation after allowing for the training budget.

Meanwhile, the government said yesterday that an extra £27 million had been earmarked for Scottish local authority housing.

More police and better prisons

LAW AND ORDER

By STEWART TENDLER
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

INCREASED expenditure on improving prison accommodation rather than new prisons, extra funds for police equipment and grants for 360 more probation staff are among Home Office plans for a budget of £5.38 billion next year.

The budget for 1990-1 represents an increase of between 6 and 7 per cent on a budget of £5.03 billion. The ingredient for police expenditure to local authorities will rise from £2.17 billion to £2.47 billion, an increase of about 13 per cent. The police are to get an extra 700 officers and 1,300 civilian staff. Total police manpower in England and Wales will rise to 128,200 plus 51,900 support staff. The police increase is not as large as in other years because funds have been diverted either to increasing civilian staff or an extra £60 million towards capital expenditure such as cars, computers and communication systems.

Next year a total of £180 million will be available from the Home Office for this expenditure. Chief constables have complained that new expenditure rules in 1990-1 have left them with only £50 million instead of £140 million. Officials say the increase next year will bring police spending back to earlier levels. Decisions on the division of the cash will be taken in the next few weeks.

The demands of the prison service have also been balanced by a process of give and take. Funds from a reduced building programme will be diverted to provide more money for refurbishing existing prisons. Because of declining prison population plans for three new prisons have been halted. Thirteen prisons are under construction.

By early 1994 depending on prison overcrowding three-quarters of the prison population will have proper sanitation rather than relying on the "slopping out" process. Next year there should be as many places as inmates although the accommodation will still not match the different types of prisoner.

There will be more places for juvenile offenders than is needed. On the other hand there will still not be enough places for adult offenders.



Inflation in theory and fact

November 1987: Nigel Lawson, chancellor, says: "Inflation may rise a little next year, reaching 4.5 per cent in the fourth quarter, by which time it should be on a downward trend again." (Inflation peaked at 6.8 per cent in December 1988).

November 1988: Nigel Lawson says: "Inflation has increased to well above Treasury projections. The new forecast is for 6.25 per cent average inflation in the fourth quarter of this year against 4 per cent predictions in the budget." (Inflation peaked at 8.3 per cent in 1989).

November 1989: John Major, says in his first autumn statement: "Inflation will drop down to 5.75 per cent by the fourth quarter of 1990. It may not be an easy year." (Inflation rose to 10.9 per cent in September 1990).

November 1990: John Major says: "I am now confident that inflationary pressures have been brought firmly under control. The monetary indicators show this clearly. From a peak at the current level of about 11 per cent I expect inflation to fall to around 5.5 per cent in the fourth quarter of next year."

Farmers to be paid to cut output

AGRICULTURE

By MICHAEL HORNSBY
AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

NEW schemes to promote lower-output farming which is less damaging to the environment were disclosed yesterday in the Chancellor of the Exchequer's autumn expenditure statement.

The spending plans provide for £8 million over three years to pay farmers who undertake to reduce their numbers of beef cattle or breeding ewes by at least 20 per cent, and for a pilot scheme of financial aid to farmers who convert to organic methods of production.

Over the same period, the government is to spend £23 million on subsidies to cattle and sheep farmers in hill areas more environmentally-sensitive and £34 million improving flood defences. Total spending on agriculture is now put at £2,650 million in 1991-92, rising to £2,780 million in 1992-93 and £2,800 million in 1993-94. Even with these increases, however, the spending provision for 1991-92 is only 1.1 per cent above the £2,620 million forecast for 1990-91.

The bulk of the increases are accounted for by higher spending on farm support measures under the European Community's common agricultural policy. The biggest extra cost arises from the purchase and storage of beef to shore up market prices, which have been driven down by over-production and cheap imports from outside the Community.

£170m earmarked to back green policies

By RICHARD FORD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

ENVIRONMENT

SPENDING on initiatives to improve the countryside and tackle pollution is to increase by an extra £170 million next year as the government attempts to highlight its green credentials.

Having won an extra £1.8 billion to hold down next year's community charge bills, the increases shown in Chris Patten's environment department budget yesterday were of a much lower order.

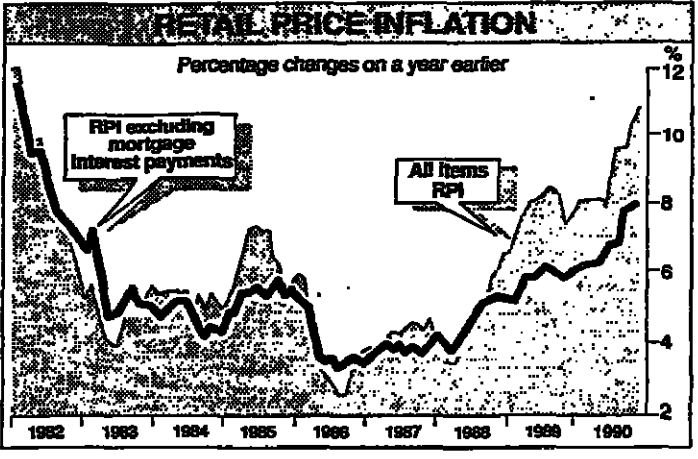
Mr Patten said the additional funds would help protect and improve the environment and also help the homeless and the revival of inner-city areas. Spending on housing is to rise from £6.72 billion to £7.28 billion and on environment from £1.26 billion to £1.43 billion.

In the politically sensitive area of housing he won an extra £50 million with £130 million for

tackling homelessness over the next two years. A further £80 million will help to provide temporary shelter for people sleeping rough on London streets.

The Countryside Commission is to receive an increase of 20 per cent to £25 million in its funding, while money for conserving the nation's heritage will increase by £22.3 million, to £173 million in 1990-91. English Heritage will receive an extra £7.5 million.

Conservation agencies reacted with surprise and delight yesterday to unexpectedly generous increases in funding. Lord Montagu of Beaulieu, chairman of English Heritage, warmly welcomed the increase saying that many important projects could now go ahead.



Dismay at science and technology 'spending freeze'

By NICK NUTTALL
TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

SPENDING on science and technology research and development is to be increased in line with inflation over the period 1991 to 1994, according to the statement.

The "freeze" was criticised by the Labour Party and Save British Science, the pressure group representing thousands of scientists and learned bodies. The group said: "Nothing for British science is the message from the chancellor. This continued failure to understand the importance of investment in scientific and technological research will cause dismay among scientists and industrialists." Kenneth Clarke, the

education secretary, said that when exceptional overheads were taken into account the increased provision in 1991-2 would preserve the real value of the science budget. Exceptional factors included the costs of relocating the headquarters of the Economic and Social Research Council and the Agricultural and Food Research Council to Swindon and expenses linked with the Antarctic research ship, James Clark Ross.

Save British Science said, however: "On the government's own estimate in January, government support for research in our universities and polytechnics, the science base, will be 10 per cent lower in purchasing power by 1992-3 than

it was in 1987-8." The group said that with inflation running higher than expected, the fall could be as much as 20 per cent, and this is in the country with a government already far behind most other European governments in the level of its support for the science base.

Jeremy Bray, Labour spokesman on science and technology, accused the government of not only "freezing" the budget in real terms but, even when exceptional costs were taken into account, cutting the share of national income being spent in science and technology over the coming fiscal year from 0.162 per cent to 0.154 per cent. The environmental

protection research budget is to be increased by £5.8 million in 1991-2 over the current year's provision of £42 million. Much of the money is expected to go to the Hadley Centre, part of the Meteorological Centre at Bracknell, Berkshire.

Dr Bray said that although he welcomed this increase in real terms, it was still woefully low when compared with the budgets of countries such as the United States which are spending £500 million on environmental protection research. He said that he feared this would contribute to a brain drain of environmental scientists to America.

Education and science department spending on research and

development, which includes European Commission funding, will be £928 million or an increase of 3 per cent over the 1990-1 budget of £901 million. The department said that the Antarctic ship had taken £16 million and the relocation costs for the two councils had been £7 million. As a result, the increase in actual research and development spending will increase by about £50 million over the period 1991-2 or 5.7 per cent.

Dr Bray said, however, that this did not take into account a rise in scientists' salaries and meant that, as a proportion of national income, the science budget on research was set to fall.

Alia proposes sweeping reforms as clamour for change grows



Alia working to improve Albania's credentials abroad

AGAINST a background of growing internal unrest, President Ramiz Alia of Albania has proposed political reforms which could ultimately end the dominant role of the ruling communist party. He also proposed amending the constitution to tolerate religious belief.

In a move clearly aimed at forestalling domestic discontent and improving Albania's credentials at this month's Paris meeting of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE), Mr Alia was quoted by the official Albanian news agency yesterday as saying: "The party cannot and should not exercise solely the power of the state."

Albania hopes that at the CSCE meeting it will be made a full member of the Helsinki process. At present it only has observer status. However, Albania's lamentable human rights record and its proclamation in 1967 as "the world's first atheist state" has not endeared it to the all-European system.

Mr Alia who has already proposed measures for "religious tolerance" earlier this year, told a meeting of the central committee earlier this week that the constitution should be amended and the policy of atheism changed.

Internal unrest and pressure from a new wave of Communist party intellectuals has forced Albania, a stalinist fortress, to mend its ways, writes Richard Bassett

meeting of the central committee earlier this week that the constitution should be amended and the policy of atheism changed.

In practice, however, such changes are likely to have little effect on Albanians' suppressed religious aspirations. The authorities have explained that "religious tolerance" means that "religion can be a private matter". The walled-up catholic churches and mosques and the complete ab-

sence of clergy would remain. Mr Alia also referred to elections planned for next February. These will be multi-candidate but not multi-party. However, given the presence of the reformist group within the party, it is likely that the choice between candidates would be meaningful.

Obviously, Mr Alia felt compelled to refer in his address to what he described as "the anarchy of the workplace," confirming

what many in Albania outside the ruling elite have known for some time, that the workforce is increasingly impatient. With prestigious but antiquated heavy industrial plants, such as the outdated steelworks at Elbasan, the authorities no longer appear able to inspire or impose their will on the workers.

The economic reforms referred to by Mr Alia in his speech involve cutting subsidies in a belated attempt to introduce efficiency. But these changes will in the short term only lead to a deterioration in what is already the lowest living standard in Europe.

Gramoz Pashko, one of Albania's leading economists and a reformist, said: "The economic

reforms are half-baked and have not been thought out properly. Inevitably they would involve workers having less. Time is running out. I see the future as bleak and probably violent."

As well as a race against time, Mr Alia is clearly fighting a battle with influential forces within his party, which are opposed to reform. The experience of eastern Europe, poignantly shows that no stalinist system has much hope of reforming itself successfully.

Diplomats in Western embassies throughout the Balkans have already reconciled themselves to the probability that they will be dealing with a very different Albanian government in the near future.

Domestic woes silence fanfare of Gorbachev's visit to Bonn

FROM MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT Gorbachev sets off for Germany today on a visit which has been transformed from a high-profile celebration of Soviet friendship with a united Germany into an almost furtive day of treaty-signing.

The trip, planned for some time, was officially announced by the Soviet side two days later than in Bonn and only 36 hours before Mr Gorbachev's departure.

Ordinary Russians may scarcely notice the visit as they emerge from their hangover after the revolution celebrations. By the time they return to work on Sunday Mr Gorbachev should be back in Moscow. The timing and the brevity of what was expected to be at least a four-day visit, to include not only Bonn, but also Berlin and possibly other German cities, is probably deliberate.

Mr Gorbachev's last foreign excursion, his credit-seeking mission to Spain and France, was widely criticised domestically. There was public resentment at the time he was spending in the West when life in the Soviet Union was so hard, and his quest for credits was dismissed as demeaning. On Wednesday, at the parade for the anniversary of the Bolshevik revolution, one placard said: "President Gorbachev, points scored abroad are points

lost at home." The message has clearly been heard. His image at home and his country's pressing domestic problems are not the only reasons why today's visit will be functional rather than celebratory. In Germany, Mr Gorbachev will be signing two treaties on good-neighbourly relations and on economic co-operation. Like the unification treaty, these have been ratified by the German parliament, but not yet by Moscow.

Recently, a veteran Soviet foreign policy official and German specialist, Valentin Falin, predicted the treaties could run into difficulties in the Soviet parliament. Mr Falin, who heads the foreign affairs department of the Communist party central committee, said that changes might have to be introduced to convince parliament that long-standing fears of a united Germany were no longer justified, and Soviet security was not being jeopardised. Mr Falin's remarks suggested that unification was still the subject of high-level disagreement within the Soviet leadership and that Mr Gorbachev's mandate for approving it and German membership of Nato was distinctly shaky.

In the past two weeks there have been suggestions that Moscow may also be considering shortening the four-year period Soviet troops are entitled to stay in what was formerly East Germany. Although their maintenance is being financed largely by Bonn, more than 50 soldiers are said to have defected since unification and there are fears of mass defections.

Soviet television said this week that Moscow had refused permission for detachments of Soviet troops to go to Hamburg to help load East German potatoes for shipping to the Soviet Union. The exports were agreed before unification, but a shortage of loaders is delaying their dispatch. The commentator gave fear of defections as the main reason why Moscow had refused permission.

Another aspect of Mr Gorbachev's visit is likely to be the quest for further financial support. There were hints in Mr Falin's comments that some Soviet objections to the agreements with united Germany could be eliminated by offers of more money.

Red Square gunman to be charged

FROM REUTERS IN MOSCOW

A GUNMAN who fired two shots just yards away from President Gorbachev during the November 7 parade is to be charged with attempting to carry out a terrorist act, Tass said yesterday.

"After studying the preliminary material we have initiated a criminal case on the charge of attempting to carry out an act of terrorism," Tass quoted the KGB's serious crimes investigator, Pyotr Sokolov, as saying. He said the gunman, Aleksandr Shmonov, 38, was an unemployed Leningrad factory worker. He pulled out a sawn-off hunting rifle during the civilian parade on Red Square and fired two shots before being set upon by plainclothes KGB officers before being bundled away.

If convicted, he could face the death penalty. Article 66 of the Soviet Penal Code, which covers terrorist acts, states that the minimum punishment for the crime is a prison sentence of 10 to 15 years. But Mr Shmonov could be imprisoned without trial. A KGB spokesman said earlier yesterday that he would undergo psychiatric tests.

The last person to fire shots near a Soviet leader was a Leningrad army lieutenant, Viktor Ilyin, 21, who sent to a mental hospital after firing shots at a car he thought was carrying Brezhnev in January 1969. He was only released from solitary confinement in 1988.

No one was injured in Wednesday's shooting, which took place 150 yards from the viewing stand on top of the Lenin mausoleum.

Tass said Mr Shmonov, now in a KGB prison, had given investigators a full account of how he had planned the shooting. But it did not say whether the gunman had intended to shoot Mr Gorbachev.



Borderline case: Tadeusz Mazowiecki, the Polish prime minister, with Helmut Kohl, right, before his talks with the West German chancellor about the Oder-Neisse border. The two leaders met in the frontier town of Frankfurt an der Oder yesterday

German-Polish visit confirms border

FROM IAN MURRAY IN FRANKFURT AN DER ODER

ON THE new dividing line through Europe, Helmut Kohl, the confident German chancellor, met Tadeusz Mazowiecki, his worried Polish counterpart here yesterday to discuss how to prevent the continent splitting dangerously in two again.

Before that, however, this first visit to united German soil by a foreign head of government, had to confirm that the river Oder was to remain the border and that Germany laid no claim to the territories it once ruled on the eastern bank.

Under Polish urging, the two leaders agreed a timetable for completion and ratification of an international treaty designed to settle for all time that the Oder-Neisse is the unchangeable border between the two countries. Herr Kohl promised this would be ready for the newly elected Bundestag in January and be ratified by the end of February.

Parallel with it would be a comprehensive "good neighbour" treaty on economic, technical and

cultural co-operation which the chancellor hopes will prevent the border creating a new European division.

The chancellor said he hoped by Christmas it would be possible to open the border to allow Poles to cross into Germany without a visa, although this would first have to be agreed with France and the Benelux countries, which have an open border agreement with Germany.

Aware of the need of his countrymen to be allowed easy access to the wealthy half of Europe Mr Mazowiecki set the tone for the meeting. "The fall of the Berlin Wall symbolised the end of the political and military division of Europe," he said. "It remains particularly important for us that this division is not replaced by another which could be equally as dramatic in its consequences: the division into a rich and poor Europe."

Ralf Dahrendorf, page 14
Berlin Wall, page 22

Bulgarian bickering spurs election talk

FROM TIM JUDAH IN SOFIA

BULGARIA was in political deadlock last night with politicians across the spectrum, unable to agree on the composition of a new government, saying that the demise of Andrei Lukin's six-week-old Socialist administration was imminent and fresh elections were in the offing.

Mr Lukin characterised the political mood as "massochistic" and suggested that unless his party and the main opposition alliance, the Union of Democratic Forces (UDF), can reach rapid agreement on the formation of a coalition government, then polls are inevitable.

Mr Lukin's Socialist party, the successor to the Communists, was returned to power in the country's first free elections since the war last June. But wracked by internal divisions, and unable to tempt the UDF into a coalition, the Socialists are now seriously contemplating giving up power.

Last week, Mr Lukin told parliament that he would resign unless the opposition supported

his tough new economic proposals. He has repeatedly said he is unwilling to implement them unless he has "broad support" from all political forces in the country. However, the UDF responded to the prime minister's announcement by saying it would only support his plans if his government effectively resigned.

The price of co-operation was the leadership and all key ministries. The UDF holds 145 seats in the 400-seat chamber, against 210 for the Socialists. In August, the opposition had its man, Zhelyu Zhelev, elected as president by Parliament. But there is a feeling in the demoralised Socialist party that to lose the post of prime minister would be one humiliation too many.

Yesterday evening, students demonstrated in the capital and demanded the resignation of the government. More ominously, a bomb exploded late on Wednesday night in a Sofia housing estate. There were neither injuries nor claims of responsibility.

Papal visit gets frosty reception in Naples

Rome — The Pope's first official visit to Naples, which begins today, has unleashed a wave of criticism from Catholic communities in the city, protesting at the cost of the five-day visit and questioning the Pope's traditional style (Richard Bassett writes).

Naples is Italy's poorest city. Representatives from 16 communities which specialise in helping the poor issued a statement yesterday which says: "In our view dialogue and religion can only be helped in Naples by an evangelic spirit, and not by expensive displays which can only excite the poor."

The statement has shocked many in the Vatican who, accustomed to regarding Naples despite its poverty, as one of the holiest cities in Italy. Priests play a vital role in Neapolitan society which, accustomed to living in the shadow of potential oblivion from the nearby volcano of Vesuvius, is devout and less anti-clerical than in cities of northern Italy.

The Archbishop of Naples yesterday defended the papal visit and the organised programme of meetings with students, artists and academics. Cardinal Michele Giordano said: "The Pope's visit is a historical event. He speaks about humanism for Neapolitans, understood by the complexity of our problems."

But the visit, which begins in a meeting with "cultural figures" in the opulent setting of the Carlo opera house, is unlikely to satisfy poorer Neapolitans who are already used to feeling neglected by the rest of Italy.

Pozsgay quits

Budapest — Imre Pozsgay, a communist reformer, has left the Hungarian Socialist Party, which he was vice-president of, the eve of a key party congress officials said yesterday. The move by Mr Pozsgay, who played a leading role in Hungary's transition to multiparty democracy after four decades of communist rule, shocked the Socialists. Reports say he would not join any other party and would explain his resignation tomorrow. (Reuters)

Air link at risk

A regular air service which was to have started next week, linking the Falkland Islands with Chile for the first time since the 1982 war, has been thrown into question after Argentina refused permission for an aircraft to enter its airspace, senior officials said. The island expressed dismay. It was seen as a move by Buenos Aires to end any links between the island and the mainland pass via Argentina, which the islanders reject.

Japanese amnesty

Tokyo — The Japanese justice ministry plans an amnesty for about 2.5 million people to mark Emperor Akihito's coronation on Monday. Details of the pardons, expected to be mainly for traffic offences, have not been made public, a justice ministry official said. More than 10 million people received amnesties to mark the funeral of the last emperor, Hirohito. Japan declares amnesties to mark events that it deems historically important. (AP)

Passing clouds

Tokyo — China's top leader Deng Xiaoping gave up his favourite and much-publicised habit of smoking — more than a year ago, his daughter said here. Deng Lin said her father had heard much advice on kicking the cigarette habit and had decided to try. Mr Deng, who popularised "Panda Brand" Chinese cigarettes, often used to say that smoking was good for his health. Deng Lin was in Japan to publicise an exhibition of her paintings. (Reuters)

De Gaulle stirs remembrance of time past

Twenty years ago today, Charles de Gaulle sat down at the bridge table at his house in Colombey-les-deux-Églises for an evening game of patience that would never be finished. With a sharp cry of "Oh, it hurts here, in my back," the general slumped sideways in his armchair, cards scattered, head resting on one hand. Half an hour later, he was dead.

Next morning, the news of de Gaulle's passing was broken to the nation by his successor as president, Georges Pompidou. In a radio broadcast that a great many middle-aged French remember vividly, Pompidou declared: "France is a widow."

By a quirk of history, November 1990 also marks the centenary of de Gaulle's birth in Lille, while last June marked the fiftieth anniversary of his famous rallying call over the BBC for the

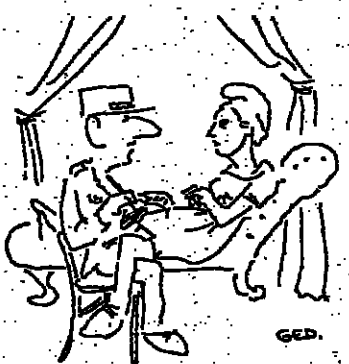
French to fight on against the German invaders. Plenty to commemorate, then, and the books, films and television documentaries have been coming thick and fast, each purporting to tell the French what the man who had been described as the psychoanalyst of the nation was really like, what he really thought, what he did or did not achieve in his extraordinary life.

This time next year, most of these oeuvres will be gone — and deservedly forgotten — though perhaps there is a place in the archives for the sequence from a film, said to be based on a script hammered out years ago by William Faulkner, in which a noble young Frenchwoman leaps from her foam bath to embrace the cigar-puffing Winston Churchill.

But there is one work that

should endure longer, if only for what it has to say, from the most unlikely perspective, about the general's personal and political legacy at a moment when the French hold their elected leaders and representatives in profound contempt. Its author is Régis Debray, once a darling of the revolutionary left, the man who had stalked the jungles of Bolivia with Che Guevara and hounded with Fidel Castro before signing on with Francois Mitterrand as a foreign policy expert.

By his own admission Debray, who has just turned 50, once shared Mitterrand's abiding hostility towards de Gaulle and the "permanent coup d'état" (Mitterrand's phrase) represented by the Fifth Republic that the general ushered in more than three decades ago. Yet his book (*A Demain de Gaulle*) portrays a very different figure, "the last



great man of the 19th century, perhaps the first great man of the 21st."

Significantly, much of what Debray writes about de Gaulle today closely mirrors the feelings that many ordinary French express, often inarticulately, when they are

asked what the general meant to them personally. "Honesty, simplicity and the courage of his convictions," said a Parisian banker who has now stopped voting for a generation of politicians he considers self-serving mediocrities at best.

"A leader who understood that times change but upheld the values he respected and was never corrupted by power," suggested a restaurant owner in Bar-sur-Aube, the nearest town to de Gaulle's beloved Colombey. "Just look at his grave there, a white stone with his name on it, not a word more, nothing about having been president of France or even his wartime decorations."

There is not a politician in France today, one feels, who would be laid to rest happily with such simplicity in a tiny country cemetery.

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Baghdad threatens a 'sea of burning fire' in the Gulf

By ANDREW McEWE, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

IRAQ threatened yesterday to reduce the Gulf region to ashes if attacked, described Margaret Thatcher as "an old hag", and rejected an offer by six non-Arab Muslim nations to help in resolving its claims once it had withdrawn from Kuwait.

Baghdad's belligerent tone was partly a response to Mrs Thatcher's remarks in the Commons on Wednesday, when she said time was running out for President Saddam Hussein.

The government newspaper *al-Jumhuriya* said: "If the fire of aggression is unleashed against Iraq... flames will over everything, and will burn everything in every direction. Nothing except ashes will be left... nothing except a sea of burning fire will be left from the oil they dream to control."

said, Baghdad would not target Muslim shrines in Mecca and Medina, but everything else would be incinerated. "Nothing will be saved from the flames except the house of Allah (the Grand Mosque in Mecca) and the grave of the Prophet of Allah (in Medina)."

Tariq Aziz, the foreign minister, said that an agreement between the United States and Saudi Arabia on operational control of troops in combat showed the two countries were planning to attack. "This agreement confirms the aggressive and colonialist aims of the American and Western presence in the (Arabian) peninsula and the Gulf."

Mrs Thatcher's stand was praised yesterday by Kazi Zafar Ahmed, the Bangladesh prime minister, who visited her at Downing Street. In an interview he disclosed that Baghdad had turned away an offer by Bangladesh, Pakistan, Malaysia, Indonesia, the Maldives and Brunei to assist in negotiating a settlement of Iraq's claims if it withdrew from Kuwait.

President Ershad was on close terms with President

Saddam before the invasion of Kuwait, and might have been an intermediary acceptable to Baghdad. However, a letter from the Iraqi foreign ministry to the Bangladeshi embassy in Baghdad claimed that the offer had been made public before being communicated to the Iraqi authorities, which showed its "lack of usefulness". But Mr Ahmad said this was untrue.

"It seems that a peaceful diplomatic solution may not be possible," he said. Bangladesh, like other countries, wanted every opportunity for a settlement to be explored, but that process was close to being exhausted. He opposed any compromise that would allow Iraq to remain in Kuwait.

The support of some non-Arab Muslim nations for multinational forces in Saudi Arabia has helped the West to counteract Baghdad's claims that the military build-up amounts to a new form of colonialism. Bangladesh has 2,000 troops there.

Moscow support, page 1
Leading article, page 15
Letters, page 15



Amman hand-out: ethnic Circassian schoolgirls in Jordan show off boxes of sweets and pencils that they are to send to children in Iraq

Desert Rat tanks on exercise

BRITAIN'S Desert Rats are expected to be pronounced combat ready next week after an exercise involving the combined units of the 7th Armoured Brigade takes place in a few days (Michael Evans writes).

Yesterday two squadrons of Challenger tanks from the Royal Scots Dragoon Regiment carried out live firing and manoeuvre training in the

build up to next week's full brigade exercise, the first since all the British armour arrived from Germany.

Tom King, the defence secretary, who is flying to the Gulf on Monday for three days, will watch the exercise and is expected to announce that the brigade is operationally ready to take on the Iraqis.

After yesterday's manoeuvres, which also involved

firing by 155mm M109 artillery, Lieutenant Colonel John Sharples, commander of the Royal Scots Dragoon Regiment, said: "I'd never complain if I had more but we're prepared. We're ready to do what has to be done." The two squadrons of 28 Challengers charged across the desert, firing their 120mm guns, which officers described as "deadly and devastating".

Kremlin moves closer to US on military stance

By MARY DEJEVSKY AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

THE announcement last night by the Soviet foreign minister, Eduard Shevardnadze, that the Kremlin could accept a military solution to the Gulf crisis, is the latest signal from Moscow that it recognises the prospects for a peaceful settlement are growing slim.

At a Kremlin news conference after nine hours of talks with James Baker, the American Secretary of State, Mr Shevardnadze was asked about the possible use of force against Baghdad. "Probably this could not be ruled out and a situation could emerge which effectively could require such a move."

He added: "I would advise against looking for some differences in the position between the Soviet Union and the United States."

Although leaving Moscow's policy ambiguous, the timing of Mr Shevardnadze's comments, towards the end of Mr Baker's diplomatic mission, could be interpreted in Baghdad as ominous.

Earlier this week, diplomats in Moscow were told that President Gorbachev had been "misquoted" in Paris, when he was reported to have rejected the use of military force as "unacceptable".

In the past, both Mr Gorbachev and Mr Shevardnadze have been reluctant to speak about the possibility that force would be used, but neither has dismissed it completely, preferring to say that sanctions should be given more time to work.

The Soviet and Western positions coincide in their insistence that Iraq should withdraw totally from Kuwait; that Iraq should not profit from its aggression; and that no equivalence should be drawn between the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and Iraq's occupation of Kuwait, although they allow that a solution to the Kuwait question could pave the way for a more general political settlement in the Middle East.

However, there appear to be strands of opinion in the Soviet political and military leadership which would regard the use of force as "unacceptable". Some clearly regret that Moscow has *de facto* broken off its friendship with Iraq.

losing an important ally in the Middle East without acquiring another in return. Others are concerned for the fate of the thousands of Soviet citizens who still remain in Iraq.

Another concern may be public response to the involvement of Soviet armed forces abroad. The war in Afghanistan has left deep hostility to the use of Soviet troops in action even inside the country. Call-up for possible combat duty in Azerbaijan in January provoked street protests and demonstrations. The dispatch of Soviet troops to the Gulf could easily bring the same response.

At the same time, Moscow has seemed keen to avoid any return to the diplomatic isolation of previous years and has urged that any action should be internationally coordinated. While its repeated calls for the UN's military staff committee to be revived have gone largely unheeded, Tass reported with some satisfaction that an "informal" meeting of the committee had been held on October 29. The Soviet foreign ministry spokesman, Gennadi Gerasimov, emphasised the importance of the meeting at his regular press conference.

Last week, one of President Gorbachev's advisers was quoted as saying that Moscow might agree to "small, rather symbolic" military participation in the Gulf. Oleg Bogomolov, an international economist, was quoted as saying that "even this involvement would be very important".



Shevardnadze: ominous signal to Baghdad

Saddam sacks his armed forces chief

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

PRESIDENT Saddam Hussein has sacked his armed forces chief of staff, replacing him with the commander of the elite Republican Guards. The move was seen by Western defence sources as a sign of increasing edginess by the Iraqi leader as he faces up to the probability of a war with American and allied forces.

He is also reported to have issued his commanders in Kuwait with battle orders in sealed envelopes, reflecting two fears: that American bombers will destroy his communications systems in a pre-emptive strike; and that US electronic intelligence satellites, in geostationary positions over the Middle East, would eavesdrop on orders sent by radio from Baghdad.

One senior military source in Saudi Arabia said yesterday: "I think it's beginning to dawn on Saddam Hussein how isolated he is."

The new chief of staff is Lieutenant-General Hussein Rashid, who has built up a reputation as a brilliant commander of the six Republican Guards divisions, the mobile forces of about 120,000 soldiers used in the invasion of Kuwait on August 2. The Republican Guards, who are considered loyal to President Saddam, would be used in a counter-attack against the allied forces if an offensive were

launched to remove Iraqi troops from Kuwait. General Rashid replaces Lieutenant General Nizar al-Khazraji, who had been chief of staff since 1985. Reference to the change was made yesterday in the Iraqi army paper *al-Qadisiya*. But it did not say what had happened to General Khazraji, who has not been seen in public since his sacking three days ago.

So it is not known whether his departure was the result of a clash over tactics between the general and the Iraqi leader or whether President Saddam doubted his loyalty or his suitability for running his military campaign. The president normally surrounds himself with "yes men".

Some Western diplomatic sources suggested that the sacking, the second in two it could indicate opposition among some close advisers to President Saddam's strategy. ● NICOSIA: General Khazraji may have been sacked because he failed to tell President Saddam that he had received a letter from retired officers warning of a catastrophe awaiting Iraq, according to the New Umma Party, a pro-democracy Iraqi movement (Michael Theodorou writes). The officers reportedly appealed to the general to stop another generation of young Iraqis being wasted.

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Gandhi turns down request to form a new government

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

RAJIV Gandhi, ousted as India's prime minister 11 months ago, was asked by President Venkatarman yesterday if he was "willing and able" to form a government to save the country from the trauma and violence of another general election.

The former prime minister said he did not want to take over, and offered instead to throw his support behind Chandra Shekhar, leader of a breakaway group of the outgoing governing party, Janata Dal. However, he did not rule out the possibility that the president might yet be able to twist his arm.

Mr Gandhi does not want to return to power at a time of religious and caste violence that will require some unpopular political decisions. He fears damaging his chances of a decisive comeback in a later general election.

Even with support from the

50-odd MPs affiliated to the Chandra Shekhar faction, Mr Gandhi's Congress (I) party would lack a clear majority in parliament. Such a government would be weak and vulnerable, ill-equipped to deal with the caste and religious upheavals that have cost hundreds of lives in recent months.

Vishwanath Pratap Singh, the prime minister, offered his resignation yesterday after losing a confidence motion in parliament on Wednesday. He was asked by President Venkatarman to stay on until a successor can be found or an election held. His defeat followed widespread violence between Hindus and Muslims over a disputed religious site in Ayodhya.

Mr Gandhi's aim is to stall the next election until his party can reorganise itself and raise more campaign funds in a concerted bid for an outright

electoral victory. He believes public opinion is already moving back to him, but that he needs more time to consolidate his position. He fears that his game plan could be upset if he takes over a feeble administration at a time of national crisis, when he might be blamed for the turmoil.

But the president is concerned that an administration under the leadership of Mr Chandra Shekhar would be even weaker, since the former Janata leader boasts no political base and heads a breakaway group consisting of no more than 10 per cent of the Lok Sabha (lower house) membership. Mr Gandhi's team numbers nearly 200 MPs out of a 545-member assembly.

Mr Gandhi was summoned to the presidential palace for a 20-minute consultation yesterday. As leader of the biggest party in parliament, it was natural for the president to approach him first.

The president did not call in Chandra Shekhar, but instead waited for Mr Gandhi's formal reply. The former prime minister said in his response that his party was willing to support Chandra Shekhar for the prime ministership, while not becoming part of the government. This amounted to a rejection of the offer to form a government.

Later the president called in Lal Krishan Advani, leader of the right-wing Bharatiya Janata Party, and asked if he was "willing and able" to form a government. This was no more than a formality and an acknowledgement of the party's sizeable tally of 86 MPs.

Chandra Shekhar, who is calling his grouping the Janata Dal (Socialist), will probably be called in today. He said last night that it was far from certain the president would accept him as prime minister. Certainly, his team of MPs would hardly even be big enough to supply enough cabinet and junior ministers in a new government.

He has long been a fierce critic of Mr Singh, declaring soon after Mr Singh was propelled into the prime ministership: "I can never accept him as my leader."

The communist parties, which together have 55 MPs, made it clear last night that they would not support a Chandra Shekhar administration supported by the Congress party, saying that it would be "in violation of all accepted norms of political propriety". They added that Chandra Shekhar's group had no mandate nor any policy platform to form a government. Mr Gandhi, hinting that his position was not final, said that if his proposal to support Chandra Shekhar was not acceptable to the president then the party would have to think again. But he made it clear that his party would prefer not to form a government without a clear mandate in a fresh election.

Ishaq Khan vows to reduce US ties

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS IN ISLAMABAD

IN A strident state-of-the-union address yesterday, President Ishaq Khan promised to reduce his country's economic reliance on the United States.

He also said that the 12-year-old war in neighbouring Afghanistan would not end until the Soviet Union halts its support for that country's communist-style government. The president made his remarks in a speech to a joint session of parliament.

As expected, Pakistan's new prime minister, Mr Nawaz Sharif, easily won a vote of confidence in the 217-member National Assembly, the policy-making lower house, which only two days earlier elected him prime minister. He received 153 votes. The constitution requires that the vote be held within three months. Mr Sharif has yet to form a cabinet or any semblance of a government.

President Ishaq Khan said: "We will no longer have our hands out for help. We can no longer rely on others for our bread and butter. Otherwise, we will never enter the 21st century with our heads held high." Washington suspended a \$573 million (£294 billion) aid programme to Pakistan last month because of US fears that Islamabad could possess a nuclear weapon.

Neither Benazir Bhutto nor Pakistan Peoples Party MPs attended the joint session. Miss Bhutto, who was dismissed as prime minister on August 6, has accused the president of staging a constitutional coup against her government and of engineering massive vote fraud in last month's national elections

which swept the right-wing Islamic Democratic Alliance into power. International observers of the election did not corroborate her claims.

In his 30-minute speech, President Ishaq Khan said: "To those who wish to extend their hand of friendship as equal partners we will take it... But we shall not compromise on our basic rights. We hope that America will realise the importance of our friendship rather than reacting



Ishaq Khan: dismissed effect of cut in aid

to allegations," apparently a reference to pre-election criticism from US congressmen who warned the president against disqualifying Miss Bhutto.

He urged Moscow to abandon its support for the Kabul government. "It must be clear to the Soviet Union that what they allowed to happen in Eastern Europe must also be applied to Afghanistan. Otherwise, we will never have peace in the region," he said.



Victory salute: Bernard Sanders greeting supporters in Burlington after winning Vermont's congressional seat

Socialist turns tables in Vermont

WHEN Bernie Sanders was elected mayor of Burlington, Vermont, in 1981, he parked his rusting jalopy in the mayor's space and returned to find it had a ticket. His old Honda now faces a worse fate. Come January, when the 102nd Congress convenes, he will attempt to park it among the limousines of Capitol Hill.

Mr Sanders, 49, has become the first socialist to be elected to the House of Representatives since the voters of Harlem sent Vito Marcantonio to Washington in the 1940s, and he has no intention of selling out.

In the single biggest upset of Tuesday's congressional elections, the son of a Brooklyn door-to-door

Martin Fletcher charts the rise of a political outsider among an electorate long disillusioned by Reaganomics

paint salesman defeated Peter Smith, the Republican incumbent and Harvard-educated scion of a wealthy banking family, by 16 percentage points, attracting 117,374 votes. He did so by riding a wave of profound public disillusionment with Washington and its denizens and by breaking all the rules of American establishment politics.

In a land where affluence is meant to inspire ambition not resentment, he talked of soaking the wealthy. In a supposedly classless nation,

he railed against the rich and powerful, championed the downtrodden, and spoke of the need for "struggle" and "conflict". When President Bush came to attend a \$500-a-head (£253) fund-raiser for Mr Smith, the Sanders camp invited him to breakfast in a Burlington soup-kitchen.

He called for a national health service, a radical redistribution of wealth, a halving of defence spending and a return to government of the people for the people. It was a message that hit

home in an electorate with a pounding hangover on the morning after Reaganomics. The legacy of that era is a \$3,000 billion national debt, a \$500 billion Savings and Loan scandal, a growing realisation that only the rich really benefited from the Reagan tax revolution, three million homeless, 37 million without health insurance and so the list goes on.

His victory reflected voters' "frustration and anger", said Sanders. "They are disgusted with status quo politics. Congress is very much out of touch with the needs of ordinary people who instinctively understand that Washington is dominated by big money."

Landmark evidence by 'three Sarahs'

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN NEW YORK

IN A trial that ranks with the more bizarre in legal history, Wisconsin jury has heard separate testimony from three personalities who "inhabit the body of one woman."

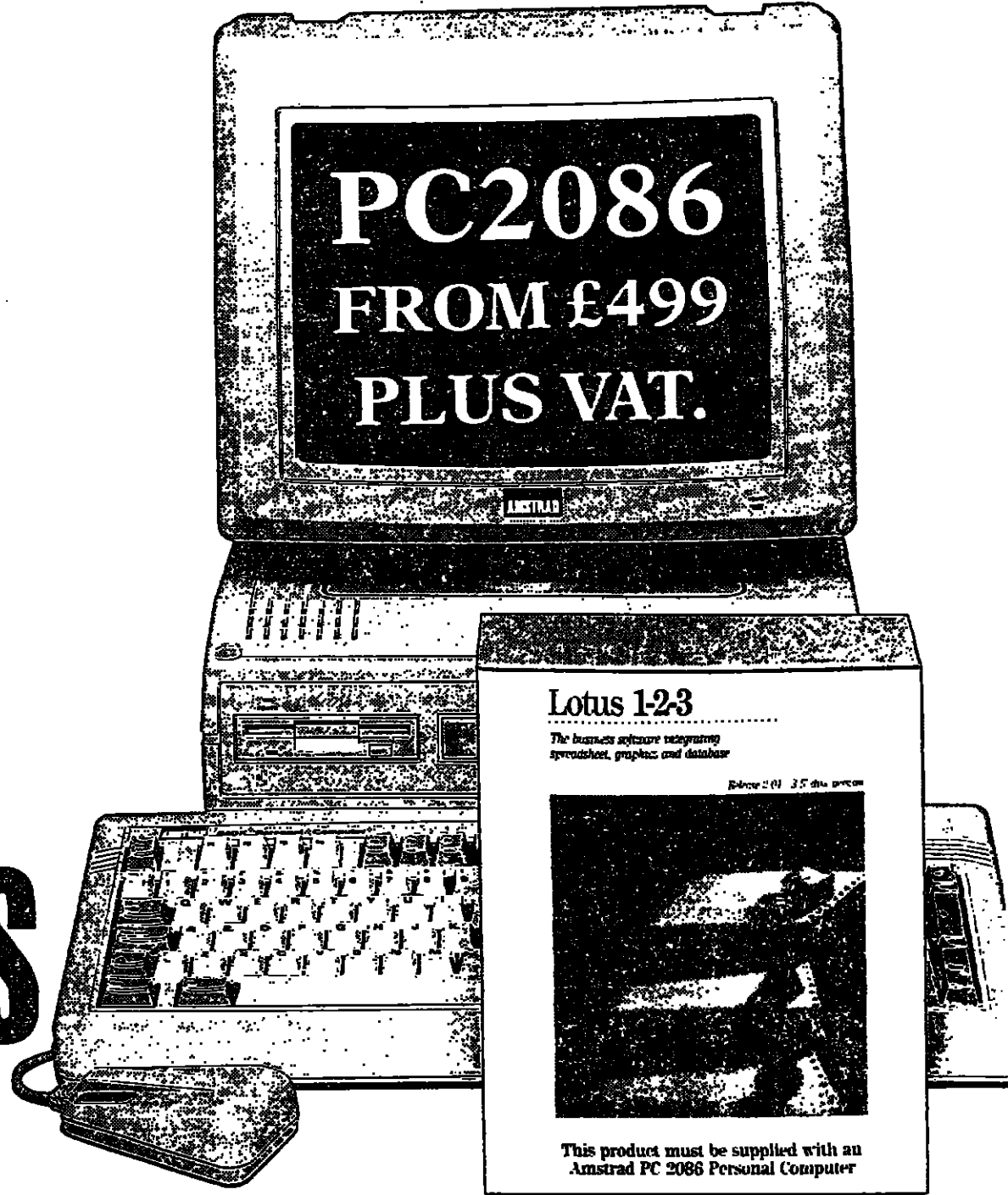
Sarah, 27, who suffers from the condition known as multiple personality disorder, claims that one of her identities was sexually violated without the consent of the dominant and other personalities. The case has attracted an army of legal experts, psychiatrists and television crews to the court in Oshkosh because it is the first time prosecutors have relied on the testimony of multiple personalities to prove a felony.

Mark Peterson, 29, a she assistant, is accused of rape. Sarah, by summoning "Jennifer", a "20-year-old" who likes to dance and have fun and having sex with her in her car. During intercourse, a 51-year-old personality known Emily intruded. She told Sarah, who subsequently telephoned the police.

On Wednesday the prosecutor and judge questioned Sarah before "summoning" and separate swearing in "Jennifer" as "Franny", a "30-year-old". According to a psychiatrist who explained the rare disorder to the court on Tuesday, Sarah was inhabited at various times by at least 48 different personalities.

The prosecution is seeking to prove that Mr Peterson was aware of Sarah's mental condition and deliberately manipulated her most vulnerable identity. In Wisconsin, having sex with a mentally incompetent person constitutes a second-degree rape.

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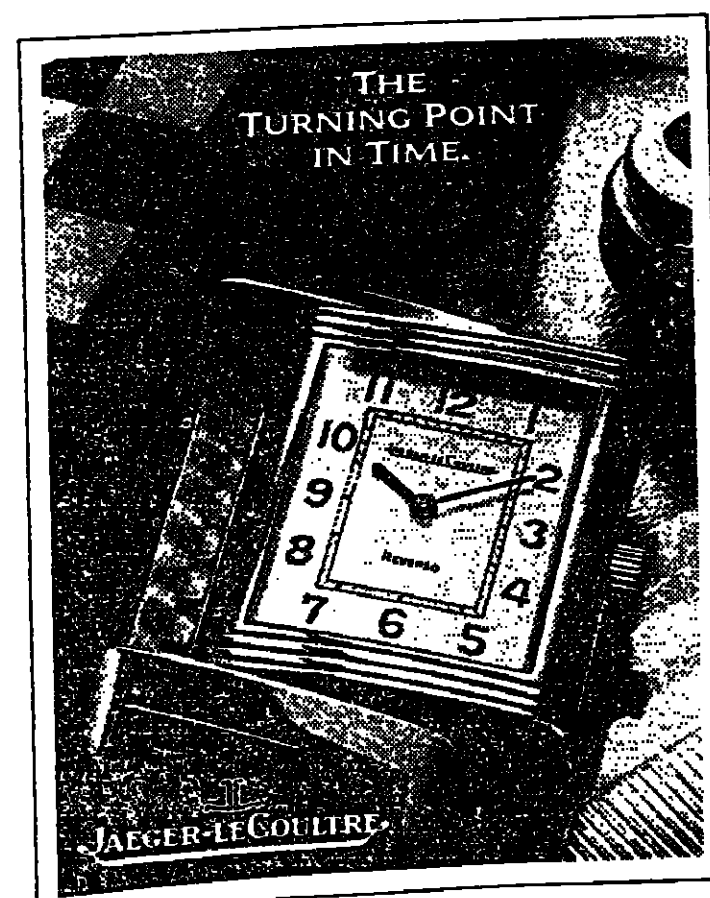
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Modernism's better half

Philip Howard

A distinctive and distinguished English voice falls silent with the death of Lawrence Durrell, dammit. It feels odd to say English about somebody who was so very un-English in his love of foreign parts (especially the Jude parts and the Mediterranean), his intellectualism and his modernism. He was just about the last of the modernists, managing to combine it with wild romanticism and jokiness.

Part of it was the eternal schoolboy wanting to show off and shock the stuffies, as in offering you a bottle of white wine at 8am, or in his title of *Tunc* which is a rude pun on the Latin for "then". Of course there was a bit of pseudery about it. You can find that in any writer if you look, including Shakespeare and the authorised version. Even *The Black Book*, written before the war when he was in his twenties was locked in a verish fan mail with Henry Miller, his cleverness and emotion behind his young man's pretentiousness. Contrary to the conventional English view, emotion and evenness are not literary virtues. Surprisingly, he became a cult figure among the reading and writing classes in the States with his *Alexandria Quartet*. We read impatiently for *Justine*, *Alphazur*, *Mountolive*, and *Clea*. Durrell became a dinner-table name. The *Quartet*, in fact, was artfully simple (for Durrell) in structure. It tells the same story on different points of view, and based on the theory that nothing is absolutely true because of relativist relativity. Durrell examines the war in a relatively exotic (his own work) that it is "a four-act novel whose form is based on the relativity proposition". We see things from a necessarily angled angle, but the limitation is nothing to do with our technology or idiosyncrasy, but in the *a priori* facts of time and space. We observe from a particular point in space and time: "Two centuries west and the whole picture is angled."

The four books of the *Quartet* look at the same events from different dimensions of space and time, to continually surprise and shock the unwary reader following the Piper Durrell. For example, *Alphazur*, Purswarden, the fish-drummer in Alexandria, is a misanthropic in *Mountolive*, a poet in *Justine*, and a lover in *Clea*. The link between his given name "FO" and his friendship with the British, Naxos, who is his wife's husband, in *Clea*, we are into the deeper level of the myth dimension, and discover Purswarden has had an ecstatic passion for his blind brother. As the man said, in a brilliant simile: "I love to feel ants overlapping each other, wing over one another like wet webs in a basket." From Durrell, events were likely to be evocative, a tea shop in Alexandria, there will be somebody

screaming in terminal meningitis on the floor upstairs, the cashier is being raped behind her cash desk, while in the street outside a live camel is being slowly cut to pieces. It is a unique mixture of geometric structural complexity and sensational events.

The latest fashion in post-modernist criticism is to say that a lot of modernism was bullshit, and that Durrell was very fluent but not really "profound". Is *The Alexandria Quartet* poor man's Joyce, impatient woman's Proust, and cut-price Einstein? Discuss. Well, Proust and Joyce are top of the first division; and not all of us can cope with full-price Einstein. As fluent instruction books in all modernist techniques, the *Quartet* novels are unsurpassed. We are not so rich in innovative and complex and fluent novelists that we can afford to put them down for not being Proust. Quite a lot of the criticism is insular jealousy of the foreign and the strange. The French are more adult about fiction than we are.

Apart from all that, there was the poetry and the light-hearted travel books. Somewhere between Calabria and Corfu, the blue really begins, and it begins with Durrell. The poetry is romantic lyrics on Mediterranean topics, with incantatory spells like asphodel and Corfu splashed liberally around. Some of it is as haunting as Graves. The travel was light-hearted with hairy warts and all. I used Durrell at the feast of St Spyridon once. (This is a Durrellian shift, which may seem irrelevant, but may also have its place in the complex structure of *Open* post-modernism.) I was pushing Angie and Aunt Myrto down the hill in their wheelchairs past the cathedral, when out sprang one of those holy rascal-beggars dear to Durrell, who started making frantic crosses and praying over the invalids, hoping for a tip. Aunt Myrto's leg was pretty well mended, and she was so cross that she leapt from her wheelchair and chased the beggar down the hill with her crutch. I remembered Larry, and shouted "a miracle", and laughed and laughed.

I don't know what will last as literature. It is a dodgy business predicting these things. As Durrell might have put it himself, all criticism is the endless repetition of getting hold of the wrong end of the stick, and it will start again tomorrow if you move the stick from here today. Durrell is out of the swing of the age now. I think that some of the English will carry on experimenting with structures of language, and with loving deep Mediterranean blue, and with reading Durrell for a bit yet. When tempted to say something out of context, because it is too adventurous, or wild, or dangerous, or might get you into Pseudo's Corner, Durrell whispers: "Bung it in, dear boy. It might annoy someone, somewhere. And it is fun." And we do, we do.

...and moreover

ALAN COREN

Remember *Rear Window*? James Stewart, immobilised by a plaster cast and forced to while away the time peering out at the premises opposite, one day spots Raymond Burr waving his arms about and convinces himself that no good is being got up to. Naturally enough, this being Hitchcock, Stewart has great difficulty convincing anyone else, and it is not until the spotted spouse himself being spotted and ladders round to knock his spatter off that the police accept that all is not as it should be chez Burr and start dusting down the electric chair.

The scene now shifts to a Cricklewood attic, where a hack immobilised by professional sterility (a condition whose symptoms, indeed, closely resemble having your brain plastered) is forced to while away the time peering out at the premises opposite. On one such morning, he spots two men perched on a roof. They are not up to no good, but they are not up to good, either. They are not up to anything. They are just up.

The hack watched them climb up, three hours earlier, and since they were carrying tool bags, it was reasonable to assume that they had been commissioned to service the roof. True, the hack had, as well as *Rear Window*, also seen *Riffifi* and *Topkapi*, but he did not believe the two men were international jewel thieves bent on forcing entry through the roof, because he could not recall a scene in either *Riffifi* or *Topkapi* where the international jewel thieves spent two hours setting up an external hoist, swearing noisily at one another, and whistling at everything that shimmered past below.

There was, of course, always the off-chance that this was a sly diversionary tactic, but the way in which the third hour was spent allied even this remote suspicion. The hack could not recall a scene in either *Riffifi* or *Topkapi* where the international jewel thieves produced a gas stove, cooked breakfast, ate it, and having finished *The Sun*, started playing cards.

An hour later, the two men climbed down again, and rattled off in their Transit. They rattled back at around 2pm, reclined their ladder, spent 10 minutes

securing a large polythene sheet over the roof, and the next hour lying on it. At 3.30 they got up, prised half a dozen tiles from the roof, threw them into the hoist's bucket, and put the kettle on. Sensible men, but they knew they needed something hot inside them for the journey home, which, soon after four, they took.

By tea on the following day - which had followed the self-same pattern, except that valuable bag-time did not have to be eaten into by laying down polythene sheets - the hack was growing somewhat irritated. Though his life was spent peering at a garret keyboard, his was not a bohemian but a bourgeois spirit, and the fact that, opposite, a fair day's pay was not buying a fair day's work got right up his nose. Further more, he had had on his own roof from time to time, and recalled, now, that corrosive mix of suspicion and impotence which accompanies the relationship between folding money and unobservable work. The men could not be seen by their client below; they could not be seen by anyone except the hack. Should he interfere?

The third day exacerbated his dilemma. No tiles got thrown into the bucket at all. The hack passed the entire morning wrestling with both his conscience and his self-image. For he liked snoopers as little as he liked layabouts. Nor, it must be said, did he much like the idea of two roofers coming round and knocking him off. What would James Stewart have done? The third day had, after all, long been the custodian of moral probity and community spirit. The hack looked up his neighbour's phone number. After a bit, he picked up the telephone.

It was even as he dialled that one of the roofers looked across, waved at him, and grinned. Involuntarily, the hack waved back. Then he put the phone down. Something had happened. The relationship of the roof. More yet: had the roofers been watching the hack for three days, asking themselves why he never did a stroke? Let him who is without sin chuck the first tile in the bucket.

Poor old Raymond Burr. He could so easily have gone with it. All he had to do was wave.

Ralf Dahrendorf asks on the anniversary of the collapse of the Berlin Wall if the new democracies of the East understand how to build free societies

Blind to the greater liberty



As the familiar structures dissolve, the search for meaning is more hectic, and people are ready to fall for the lure of ancient definitions

perfect concord, self-sufficiency and mutual love. But all human talents would remain hidden forever in a dormant state, and men, as good-natured as the sheep they tended, would scarcely render their existence more valuable than that of their animals. Heterogeneity means antagonism and conflict; it means that ways and means have to be found to regulate conflict; but by the same token it means men and women come into their own as such, as humans. Variety, heterogeneity, difference are the stuff from which human progress is made.

Conflict is the great stimulus of change, and our task in a world in which change is our only hope is to domesticate conflict by rules, by the constitution of liberty. Karl Popper was right to pay so much attention to the enemies of the open society. They are of two kinds. There are those moderns who seek to impose their dogma by monopoly power, but there is also the eternal dream of the tribe, of Arcadia. Total power will fail in the end, though the cost may be almost unbearable; in a sense the whole century which is now passing has been about this price. The eternal dream remains an eternal challenge. It challenges our ability to live with conflict, and more, to live decently with conflict.

This is not just a moral precept, but can be put in terms of social analysis. Perhaps there is no greater progress, in terms of Kant and Popper, than the realisation of the idea of citizenship.

In all cases, citizenship is about giving people who differ in age and sex, in their beliefs and the colour of their skins, in their social interests and political preferences, the same basic entitlements. These entitlements include what have come to be called human rights,

such as the integrity of the person and free speech; they also include the civil rights of participation in the political community, the labour market, society; and they include the right to pursue one's own cultural preferences. Citizenship defines in practical, almost legal, terms what all human beings have in common, in order to set people free to be different.

This, I believe, an exhilarating idea which defines an entire agenda for freedom. But then I have just confessed to what many would regard as an austere morality of living with conflict. The fact is that somehow citizenship does not seem to catch the hearts of people. Some have tried to turn the concept into one with greater appeal. Clearly, appeals to duties and obligations touch the heart more than the insistence on rights. "Do not ask what America can do for you, ask what you can do for America."

Attractive as this twist may sound, it is misleading. The whole point about citizenship is that it provides an instrument for living

with difference. Undoubtedly, citizens have obligations as well as entitlements. However, for one thing they must not be seen as conditions for each other, or else we end up with perversions like "no representation without taxation". For another thing, if citizenship is used to mobilise all for a common purpose, it is turned against its original intent.

In the new democracies of East Europe this is well understood. The advocates of civil society are not usually the protagonists of a return to the tribe. Yet there are many who have this dream. While the honeymoon of the revolution of 1989 was also a time in which the notion of a "civil forum" could thrive, the place of the protagonist of citizenship is now taken by other forces. The founder of the great civic Solidarity movement in Poland turns into a politician who invokes anti-intellectual resentments, if not worse. The author of the greatest indictment of Stalinism turns into an advocate of primeval and tribal Russian values. Electoral turnout suggests that the rules of the game of the open society have quickly lost their initial appeal. Moreover, the nation in the emphatic, tribal sense, rather than the constitutional sense, is at times coupled with another deep emotion - religion.

These are sentiments which cannot be dismissed lightly. As the heavy hand of *nomenklatura* socialism lifts, people remember where they belong, or at least where they once belonged. In any case, the open lands of freedom are not enough. They are an uncharted territory, and in order to give it contours, and thereby make sense of the direction in which one is moving, co-ordinates are needed, lines of demarcation and of orientation. Citizenship, the open society, the constitution of liberty, do not provide these by

themselves. They are all opportunities for choice, chances, marvelous chances to be sure, but mere chances too. Individuals need an inner compass to guide them, and for the compass to work there have to be magnetic fields outside which enable us to distinguish between north and south, right and wrong, desirable and undesirable courses of action, and even the shades of grey in between.

Chances are incomplete as long as they are merely options. Only if certain deep structures (I call them "figures") are added, do they become chances with meaning, life chances. The world of figures is a minefield for liberals. Most deep structures have an absolute quality; they do not readily recognize shades of grey. People either belong or they do not, and if they do not, they have no claim to rights. The nation in its emphatic sense - in contrast to the nation-state as the repository of the rule of law - has given rise to boundary disputes, internal divisions and wars. Religion as a political force has been a great destructive force of history as well as a source of structures of meaning. And both are once again with us. As familiar structures dissolve, the search for meaning becomes more hectic, and people are only too ready to fall for the lure of ancient definitions.

Why is citizenship, why is even the open society, not enough for those who have escaped the fangs of imperial and ideological hegemony? Why do they seek the Arcadia of the tribe, of homogeneous nations? Because without deep structures of belonging, the new options appear to have little meaning. This is where the critical questions arise: in the open society of citizens, then, an impossible project? Is it bound to run up against the need for figures that almost by definition introduce elements of closure, boundaries, definitions? Or can open societies have a real identity?

One country in which this subject has been fiercely debated and is of immediate significance is Germany. Some have fallen for a totally implausible tribalism of the two states of yesterday. Günter Grass has managed to combine this nostalgia with a vague though highly emotional Europeanism which others, notably outside Germany, rightly find suspicious. Jürgen Habermas has taken up an originally conservative concept in this context, "constitutional patriotism". He has in mind a kind of *Bürgergeist* - a citizen's spirit - which is established by permanent discourse and sustains the basic laws. This may be asking too much, though among the young, Habermas's contribution has hardly been overrated.

And yet, constitutional patriotism remains a thing of the mind, not the heart. It does not satisfy the need of many to live by and pass on to future generations deep structures of life in society. For two centuries, it seemed good enough to devote the energies of liberty to the creation of wider options for more people, and to relegate deeper structures to the private sphere, or perhaps simply to assume their existence. Perhaps this is still good enough. If it is not, we are in trouble. Whatever citizenship and the open society are, they are not a new religion.

It remains important to know what we do not want, which is every kind of closure, monopoly and dogma. We have to hold on to the values of citizenship in open societies. But it is hard to deny that the question of meaning remains unanswered in East and West, and the search for an answer may well provide the subject of the struggles of the next phase of history.

This is an abridged version of *Str Ralf Dahrendorf's Tynbee Prize acceptance lecture recently delivered in Oxford*.

Those taxing early years

John Major, his Tory leadership prospects done no harm at all by a reassuring performance in the Commons yesterday, has revealed new information about his unconventional upbringing in Brixton, and his close relationship with his colourful father. The chancellor has spoken for the first time in detail about his impoverished early life and the period when he was so cold he sought warmth in a cinema.

It must have been 1961 or 1962. It was a very cold winter. I was 19 and I was unemployed for quite a few months, he says. "I got £2.87 a week unemployment pay. It was when *The Flame and the Arrow*, with Burt Lancaster, was at the old Grand in Brixton, and they would let you in for a shilling in the afternoon. I saw it time after time. I used to go job hunting in the morning and when that came to naught, as it did come to naught, I trotted off to the Grand."

In the interview, which appears in next month's *Harpers & Queen* magazine, Major rebuts the story that his father was a tightrope-walker. "He worked as a sort of peripatetic circus artist," he says. "He very nearly lost his sight when I was about four or five. We used to walk together. I used to make sure he didn't trip over paving stones and that we got across the road safely, and he used to talk about all sorts of things for hours. He was the best one-on-one raconteur that I have ever heard."

Major confirms that his father played baseball in Philadelphia

but was never a military mercenary. "He was certainly caught up in difficulties in South America," he says. "But not as a soldier. He was once, according to family legend, arrested and held in one of those inspections because his name was Major."

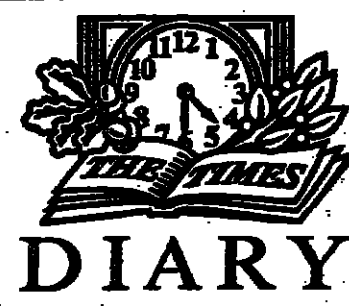
At 16 the future chancellor left school and worked with the electricity board and as a labourer. Then he applied for a job as a bus conductor at Camberwell garage. A Jamaican woman got the job. Major failed the arithmetic test.

Although it was John Major, delivering his autumn statement, who lauded the bitter medicine in the Commons yesterday it was Norman Lamont, in tough spending negotiations with his 21 ministerial colleagues, who prepared the recipe. Thus there was much chuckling at Westminster when Lamont was told of a forthcoming novel where the murder victim is the chief secretary to the Treasury. "And if it were me, Norman," quipped Cecil Parkinson, "there would be 21 suspects."

Rolling moss

The grave question of preserving tombstones in their lichen-covered glory is the subject of a seminar at Bristol University today. Eve Dennis, from the Church and Conservation project, will argue that grave-proud mourners are committing the sin of polishing away rare lichen specimens. "There has been a fashion for scraping gravestones clean," she says. "There has been a serious loss of lichen in the past 10 years."

Lichen is a useful indicator of pollution levels and is also of



interest to geologists, Dennis says. But what about a family's problem of not being able to read the name on the gravestone? "Getting the lettering right on a gravestone is an important part of the grieving process," she admits. "But after due time people should let the lichen flourish."

Faded Fabian

In his efforts to imidge Neil Kinnock nearer to the threshold of 10 Downing Street, Peter Mandelson seems to have neglected his own vote-winning needs. The Labour party's former communications director has just lost his seat on the Fabian Society's national executive committee. The election was expected to be a walkover for Mandelson, one of the most high-profile candidates. But after scraping home in the last place in 1989, he now finds himself out. Ann Taylor, who won a place on the shadow cabinet this year, and Margaret Hodge, leader of Islington council, got on for the first time.

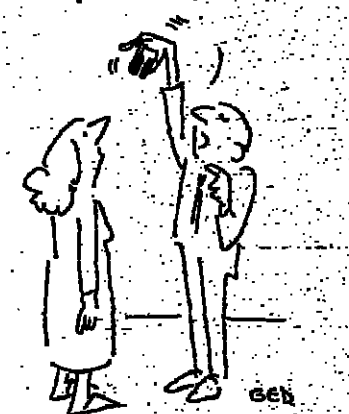
Mandelson should find election to the Commons - he is standing in Harlepool - less daunting

Opera bonasi

The best operas now come in pocket editions, courtesy of Welsh National Opera. The company has perfected the art of shrinking big productions into versions small enough to fit into theatres other than cavernous opera houses. "By reducing the scale we are able to reach audiences in the whole of Wales," says the company.

Complete with a miniature orchestra and a reduced cast, Engelbert Humperdinck's *Hansel and Gretel* is squashing into theatres seating no more than 300 on a tour this month. While Hansel and Gretel have been

Meet the mini-orchestra for Carmen



deemed so central as to merit a singer each, a single performer is filling the roles of the mother, the dwarf-lady and the witch, while another is playing the father and the squire. The chorus is made up of local school-children invited

to enjoy an hour of fame on stage. "We have reduced a 90-piece orchestra to just five pieces," says a spokesman. "We have kept a viola, a cello, a flute, a horn and an electric piano."

Seconds out

The heavy departure of the acquired Terry Marsh from the Old Bailey via the judges' exit is now the subject of an official enquiry by court administrator Graham Addicott. Judges - at least one of whom was swept aside in the crush - security staff and City of London police officers want to know why the boxer was permitted to use the exit to avoid several hundred well-wishers and reporters waiting outside the main entrance.

Addicott does not blame Marsh. "I am trying to find out who made the arrangements," he says. "It has never happened before. Even the Guildford Four left by the main entrance."

The death of Rodrigo Moynihan, this week ensures there will be no further cosmetic tinkering with the painter's most famous commission: his portrait of Mrs Thatcher now hanging in the National Portrait Gallery. When the painting first went on show in 1984, it caused a furore because Mrs Thatcher appeared to sport a drooping eye. "Both artist and sitter felt that the portrait would benefit from further sittings," the gallery said at the time. It was withdrawn. And did Moynihan do the decent thing and go back to the drawing board? Absolutely, says the gallery. The portrait is now on show sans droop.



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CHANCELLOR BUYS VOTES

John Major's autumn statement confirms that what was once a radical Conservative government has now become a conventional conservative government. Faced with economic recession, a radical Conservative government would have cut spending. This conventional conservative government is to increase it by 2.2 per cent in real terms next year.

A radical Conservative government would have hung its head in shame at spending more public money on roads and rail, schools and hospitals, rather than throwing the burden on to private investment, pricing and insurance. This conventional conservative government milks the taxpayers' pockets for every vote the Exchequer can buy. The Chancellor did not mention privatisation, gave only a nod to monetary targets, entirely ignored wealth creation and the supply side, and preached pay restraint. It was as if the radicalism of 1980-81 had never happened.

No doubt Mr Major's presentation owes something to the proximity of the general election. Politicians, Mrs Thatcher included, are happy to inveigh against the wickedness of bribing voters with their own money early in a parliament. But they rarely choose to put such discipline to an electoral test. Fortunately on this occasion, what is wise politically is also right economically. The Chancellor did not use the word recession, but his forecasts show that the country is in one. The economy has shrunk between the first half and second half of this year, and it will stagnate over the first six months of next year.

In these circumstances, to cut public spending would be hideously difficult — and for what? To reduce demand even further, deepening the hole out of which the economy has to climb? To cut spending on the infrastructure of transport, and on investment in training, on which future prosperity in part depends? To continue to run a public sector

surplus, although £27 billion in public debt has already been repaid, and although a balanced budget is a tough enough target? Too tight a policy would mean a longer, deeper recession.

The proposed increase in public spending is a modest one. Provided the rest of the economy develops as the Chancellor hopes, public expenditure will not rise above its present 39½ per cent of national income over the next two years. This is 7 percentage points below its 1984-85 peak, and 4 percentage points below its level when the Tories came to power. A further fall is in prospect for 1993-94, if the temptation to spend more in the interim is resisted. The Treasury has also secured some epic cuts in discretionary social security, in the Home Office budget and, at least in year three of the survey period, in defence, which will by then be taking its lowest proportion of national income since 1945.

These are strong arguments against deeper cuts. But they raise a further and more challenging question. Ought not the government to be planning to spend more? Nobody would advocate a wild and reckless spree. That would merely upset the markets and encourage inflation. But the cautious Germans have been warned by the Bundesbank that their budget deficit may reach 5 per cent next year, without anyone panicking. Among the seven major industrial nations, only Japan's budget is sounder than Britain's.

What is passing strange is the silence from the Opposition. John Smith and the Labour Treasury team are like frightened rabbits, mesmerised by fear of being labelled profligates. But it would scarcely be profligate to advocate now, say, a crash programme of public works on the roads and the railways, or more money for skill training. The government is cautiously conservative. The opposition is too. What has Margaret Thatcher done to the lot of them?

TESTING THE UN

The United Nations has passed ten resolutions since Iraq invaded Kuwait. All have been aimed at compelling Iraq by peaceful means to withdraw. All have been treated with disdain by President Saddam Hussein. The American secretary of state, James Baker, has now reached agreement with Saudi Arabia on the operational control of the 23-nation force mobilised on its soil, an indispensable precondition for military action.

The diplomatic endgame has begun. If the United Nations is to continue to play a role, the security council must begin to move towards military enforcement under Article 42 of the UN Charter. It should recognise that economic sanctions are proving to be inadequate to restore peace. Saddam has to be convinced that, however repugnant such a decision must be, the world is seriously preparing to use force as a last resort.

The main purpose of Mr Baker's tour of Arab and European capitals has been to sound out the willingness of key players on the council to take that step. His task is to convince those powers, notably the Soviet Union and China but including France, which have been most insistent that force should be used only if specifically authorised by the UN, that their strict interpretation of legality cannot be a pretext for inaction or appeasement. They must demonstrate that they are committed to collective enforcement of international law.

The American decision to seek security council endorsement of military action is wise. As Cardinal Hume said in a letter to *The Times* yesterday, the United Nations has become an effective vehicle for formulating the international response. Obtaining its authority for military action is of great importance. So far, the willingness of governments to share the responsibility of confronting Saddam has been unprecedented: 54 nations, a third of the UN's membership, are contributing militarily or economically to the effort in the Gulf.

Arab governments, for whom combat would carry grave political as well as military risks, attach immense importance to maintaining the international consensus. For Western publics too, the political desirability of acting under

the security council umbrella is clear. Washington is also wise to canvass opinion before formal discussions of a draft resolution with Britain, the Soviet Union, France and China, the other four permanent members which have the power to veto a resolution. Never in the UN's history has the security council agreed to act under Article 42 which provides for the use of force. This diplomatic exercise therefore involves three risks: the risk of a veto; the risk that Moscow will insist on a unified UN command; and the risk of negotiations dragging on beyond the point where, if military action there must be, the Gulf alliance holds maximum advantage.

From the outset, President Bush and Mrs Thatcher have stressed their determination to act in accordance with international law, while rightly insisting that if the security council were unable to act under Article 42, they may act under Article 51. This authorises individual and collective self-defence. Article 51 permits such action only "until the security council has taken measures necessary to maintain international peace and security". The "necessary" measures have not been taken so long as Iraq remains in Kuwait.

The UN secretary-general yesterday confirmed that they are on solid legal ground. But he also warned them that governments should "be very careful" before seeking security council approval for military action, because failure might limit their freedom of action. To put the security council to the test is right, so long as there is a firm prospect of success. That means obtaining firm prior commitments from both China and the Soviet Union to vote for the resolution or, at the least, to abstain.

However, to undertake not to use force without the security council's sanction would both be tactical folly and an abdication of the international responsibility with which this whole operation was undertaken. The purpose of diplomacy must be to ensure a durable peace. International solidarity will enhance the prospects for such a peace. But peace can only be assured by Saddam's unequivocal defeat, if necessary by force.

MONUMENTAL TAX REFORM

The Prince of Wales has made an apparently bland cultural point that should be of explosive political import. For more than a decade, a battle has raged within Whitehall over whether tax relief or direct government grant is the best way of achieving certain social goals: a better health service, wider choice in education, support for non-commercial arts or the maintenance of the nation's stock of historic buildings, towns and landscape.

On the one hand stand those, now including the Prince, who favour a "dynamic" approach. They argue that tax incentives — sometimes called tax expenditures — leave choice to the individual. People choose to pay less tax and give the money instead to any beneficiary declared worthy of such largess by the state. This approach has enjoyed some successes: mortgage interest tax relief to encourage home ownership, PEP schemes to encourage small shareholders, the "in lieu" provisions for giving works of art to the nation, covenants for charitable donations. This approach, regarded by spending ministers as an alternative method of public subsidy, is supported by them because the cost to the Revenue does not (usually) fall to their budget.

When such ministers move to the Treasury, however, they switch to the centralist persuasion. There, they become convinced that tax reliefs are the uncontrolled squandering of public money. The size of the hole in the public purse will depend on taxpayers' arbitrary decisions rather than the wise men of Whitehall. They insist that direct Treasury grant, carefully channelled, supervised and cash-limited, is the purest way of achieving any policy goal.

Fiscal centralism finds its clearest expression in the government's attitude to support for the arts and historic buildings. Here a great forest

of direct grants, planted and pruned by a regiment of wooden men from ministries, the Arts Council, English Heritage, the National Heritage Memorial Fund and others. Bred in the British bureaucratic tradition, they pursue their own cultural preferences and meddle incessantly, deeply distrustful of the private or voluntary sector.

The change Prince Charles is calling for will be seen by individuals as allowing them to spend more of their own money as they wish, and by the Treasury as a switch from direct to indirect public subsidy. This is controversial but is, on the whole, right. Clearly the Treasury needs to concern itself with the effect of tax reliefs. But it also needs to find the cheapest and best way of supporting art and charities otherwise unable to support themselves.

To the extent that new private sector money, adduced by tax relief, replaces government subsidy the switch could lead to a net gain to the public purse. In the case of the arts and historic buildings, American experience has shown that tax deductibility can unleash not just deductible private donations (which does deprive government of revenue) but immense enthusiasm. Whether the arts and heritage lobby would be prepared to see their direct subsidies vanish in return for these "indirect" ones is moot. So too is the issue of whether the Treasury can find some way of containing the new, open-ended cost to the public purse.

The subject of Prince Charles's concern on Wednesday night, St George's Hall, Liverpool, is to be restored at the expense of an American private trust, the World Monuments Fund. The building is a monument both to British architectural genius and British conservation hopelessness. It will now also become a monument to the American way of doing things, an ideal example of the prince's point.

Dead student's Kuwait message

From Mr Simon Reynolds

Sir, Joy over today's release by Iraq of Bruce Duncan and his younger son Rory must be tempered by grief for the death of Alex, Rory's 19-year-old brother, killed in a car crash at Kuwait airport on October 24, just as the two brothers were about to join the hostages assembled by Mr Heath for release from Baghdad (report, October 25).

Alex was my son Stefan's best friend at Worth School, Sussex, and I had seen him off from Heathrow on July 2 to join his family in Kuwait. Early in September Mrs Duncan and her daughters returned to England, bringing with them a letter from Alex to Stefan, dated September 4. Here are some extracts from that letter.

Dear Stefan, With luck my mother and sisters will have made it to England and you will be reading this... My mother woke me at 6am on the second of last month. Since that extraordinary moment our lives have been most unusual. Our house being near Kuwait's main port, we found ourselves in the midst of very heavy fighting for the first week. After six days of living in what must have been the only inhabited house in the area, we were evacuated to a much quieter part of town, where we have been hiding since.

I never liked living in Kuwait. Life for the foreigner was fraught with difficulty, frustration and inconvenience. The Kuwaitis appeared aloof, superior, arrogant. My views have changed with Kuwait's demise. Annoying the Kuwaitis has been, but what everyone got for granted was that they were above all else human.

They have responded admirably to their country's invasion. Brave and doomed, resistance fighters daily announce their patriotism by attacking Iraqi army targets. The Kuwaitis have shown overwhelming generosity and hospitality at the risk of losing their lives. In the crisis their deep-rooted Arab traditions have come in for the surface.

And so to the present. It is 1.30am. At 4am my mother and sisters will rise, bid us farewell and make their way to a rendezvous, where nine coaches will be waiting — be waiting to evacuate British women and children. They will be driven the hundreds of miles to Baghdad and then, if fortune is kind, will be taken out of this mess, probably by road via Jordan. Rory and I spent many hours this evening debating whether to try and go with them; the risk was that both being over 18, someone might object to us being "children". We would then have been incarcerated with other Westerners at some invading military installation in Iraq. We decided to stay.

Our reason, you may have guessed, was not the one expounded above. Alex and I had decided to take our chance and go (many other 18+ male dependants are) our place and loyalty is here with our father. Our childhood is over and we will take the consequences of our sad decision. Enough drivel... Our house was completely looted after we left it... I have no idea when we will get out of here, situations under which this would be a possibility seem very unlikely. I look forward to seeing you. Please give my love to all your family. I am extremely grateful for all their kindness to me... Take care Stef, love, Alex.

The sequel to this letter is known in all its tragedy. Mr Heath had managed to obtain both boys' release at the very last moment, but they had to get to Baghdad airport to join his plane. They came out of hiding and found their own way as far as the military side of Kuwait airport. There, having been grilled by the authorities, they were escorted an Iraqi driver and official to drive them round to the civil side of the airport.

Traffic lights no longer function in Kuwait, and a limousine drove straight into their car, rolling it over three times. The driver and Rory were badly injured. Alex and the official were killed. The same day, on advice from the British Embassy, Mr Duncan came out of hiding and tracked his sons down, one injured, the other dead, to a run-down hospital in Kuwait City.

The loss of Alex leaves a vast gap in all our lives.

Yours sincerely,

SIMON REYNOLDS,

61 Lonsdale Road, SW13,

November 8.

Turning a phrase

From Dr Stanley Solomon

Sir, Mr Peter Haddock (November 6) describes how his grand-nephew used to say during silences "to heaven" and "lost your tongue" on such occasions.

As a child, I remember country people saying "Left, and gone to Heaven" and "Lost your tongue or gone to Heaven" on such occasions.

Yours sincerely,

S. SOLOMONS,

165 West Heath Road, NW3,

November 6.

Image of Hull

From the Town Clerk and Chief Executive of Hull

Sir, Your report about Hull's hosting of the Association of District Councils' conference on economic development (November 2, early editions) was an astonishing distortion of what was a very successful conference.

The hotel problems to which it refers were quickly overcome: other hotels had round magnificently and I am not aware that delegates encountered any problems. Conferences always have to contend with late programme changes and ministers frequently have to pull out at the last minute because of the pressure of government business.

Satellite TV merger 'poses long-term problems'

From the Chief Executive of Channel 4 Television

Sir, Your daily impartial leader (November 6) on the regulatory options available to deal with the shotgun marriage of BSB and Sky comes to the unexceptionable conclusion that the overriding criterion should be "what offers viewers the widest possible choice".

In the short term it is clear that the merger makes commercial sense, and is in the interests of the current satellite audience. There is no benefit in trying, Canute-like, to hold back the economic reality of the situation in which the two competing satellite services found themselves.

In the longer term, however, the merger poses a threat to viewer choice. As so often in broadcasting, the eventual reality is the opposite of the immediate conclusions of common sense and practicality. The new satellite monopoly already reaches 2.3 million homes. That is the size of a medium-sized ITV company. Before the new ITV (Channel 3) licences begin in 1993, British Sky Broadcasting will address many more homes than even the biggest of them.

Unless regulatory action is taken in the near future, the satellite monopoly threatens completely to destabilise the structure created in the new Broadcasting Act, and to make a mockery of the provisions to sustain quality in a more competitive environment.

The new British Sky has two extraordinary advantages as it competes with all other commercial broadcasters for the same pool of advertising revenue. First, once it moves entirely on to the Astra satellite, it will be totally free of the quality regulations which are properly imposed on all other commercial television broadcasters. For Channels 3, 4 and 5, and for the original BSB, the Government is certainly not content to let the market "call the shots" on the question of quality. British Sky will operate without any such obligations.

Second, it will — again uniquely — be supported and promoted by

national newspapers co-owned by News International. This linkage, which is already manifest in the editorial stance of most of the News International newspapers, is forbidden to all other British broadcasters.

This grossly unfair competitive imbalance cannot work in favour of sustaining real viewer choice in the medium-to-longer term. In failing to guarantee the level playing field promised in the White Paper, the Government makes it certain that commercial pressure from a powerful, privileged and unregulated multi-channel player will undermine and undercut the ability of the regulated licensee to fulfil all their quality obligations. As that happens, the range of programming will inexorably contract.

If the viewers are not to be short-changed in the future, then urgent consideration must be given to creating a regulatory regime common to all commercial television companies, including the new satellite monopoly.

Yours faithfully,

MICHAEL GRADE,

Chief Executive,

Channel 4 Television,

60 Charlotte Street, W1,

November 8.

From the Earl of Stockton

Sir, As you rightly point out in your leader, there are several important commercial and public-interest issues which must now be considered in the light of the Sky/BSB merger.

First, there is the effect on the public of the new company's dominating position in the domestic satellite market, complemented by its shareholders' dominant position in the press. Tempering any instinctive reaction against such dominance is the realisation — manifest by this merger — that without the combined strength of Sky and BSB we would probably have no subscription satellite television at all.

Is there now a public-interest argument condoning the merger on the grounds that it represents what's best for Britain's burgeoning television industry taken as a

whole? The answer is almost certainly "yes", so the question then becomes a longer-term one about the effect this merger will have, and any decision the Independent Broadcasting Authority reaches about its legality, on lasting competition policy between satellite and terrestrial television services.

Second, an awareness of these longer-term implications must surely guide the IBA in taking its short-term decision about the legality of the merger. Today's news that it intends to re-advertise the domestic satellite franchise suggests it is prepared to ignore them. No one in their right mind is going to bid for the new franchise knowing they must then compete against the combined strength of BSB and Sky. This means we are abandoning the technical and programming superiority which won BSB the original franchise.

The IBA does have some room for manoeuvre. The cross-media ownership regulations which preclude newspaper proprietors from controlling the domestic satellite franchise are contained in the new Broadcasting Act 1990. However, the IBA's powers do not flow from this Act alone: the Broadcasting Act 1981 granted the authority considerable discretion in setting appropriate levels of cross-media ownership.

It does seem inevitable that something else will have to give before the future of satellite television is assured — of a more equitable footing. It is either the IBA who must give up any idea of a realistic future for the domestic satellite operator if it acts against the newspaper interests now controlling the new BSB; or it is the Government, which can reconsider its rejection of a coherent policy towards ownership regulation, or it is Mr Murdoch. The past performance of the first two suggest that the last stands the best chance of seeing this through.

Yours sincerely,

STOCKTON,

4 Little Essex Street, WC2,

November 7.

At the Cenotaph

From Air Chief Marshal Sir Nigel Maynard

Sir, Her Majesty the Queen is normally accompanied at the annual Remembrance Day Service by the Duke of Edinburgh, the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Kent. Prince Philip and Prince Charles wear naval uniform and frequently the Duke of Kent wears Army uniform. This means that no member of the royal family wears RAF uniform.

Prince Philip is a marshal of the RAF. Prince Charles is a group captain. The Duke of Kent is an air vice-marshal. Surely it would be fitting for one of these three to wear his RAF uniform on this great national occasion? This applies every year, but perhaps even more importantly in this 50th anniversary year of the Battle of Britain.

Yours faithfully,

NIGEL MAYNARD,

Manor House,

Piddington,

Bicester, Oxfordshire.

Haworth extension

From Mr Robert Barnard

Sir, It was good to read in your report on the proposed extension to Haworth Parsonage (November 6) that Bradford City Council intends to approach the Victorian Society, the Georgian Group, English Heritage, and various other groups to ask their opinion on the plans. It would be even better if they were to consult the members of the Bromley Society, for the society's council has not done so.

The present plans were approved by the society's council in spring of this year, yet at its AGM on June 2 no presentation of the plans was made, no discussion invited. All that was said was that the plans would be available for viewing the following day. Like most members, I was only in Haworth for the day of the AGM. Those members (the vast majority) who were not present that day have been left still more in the dark. The first they will have heard of the proposals is weeks after the October 12 deadline passed for representations to be made to the city council planning office) is an invitation which came in the post this week to view "exciting plans for redevelopment" one week-day afternoon late this month.

Yours faithfully,

ROBERT BARNARD,

Hazledene,

Houghley Lane,

Leeds, West Yorkshire,

November 6.

Cinema and violence

From Professor Emeritus D. N. Baron

Sir, Last week on a platform at Elephant and Castle Tube station, there were posters advertising nine different films. On five of these a main character was shown holding a gun, even though reviews of some of these films show that shooting plays little part in the story. Or, other than there was a holster and gun, and on the other three there was no gun.

Does the cinema industry believe, and does it have evidence that, without the implied promise of killing, customers will not buy tickets? And does it matter if we are so injured?

Yours faithfully,

D. N. BARON,

47 Holme Chase, N2,

November 5.

The 'Fifth Man'

From Mr W. J. West

Sir, Chapman Pincher and Nigel West (November 6) cast doubt on Gordievsky's credentials as a KGB historian. As one of the quoted sources for extensive passages in *KGB: The Inside Story* I am inclined to agree. It is a little hard to believe that my researches in the Public Record Office could not be bettered by someone with access to the KGB's own archives.

There is, however, a more serious shortcoming in *KGB* relevant to the Hollis question raised by Lord Armstrong of Ilminster (November 2) which may be seen, for example, in the fact that the book makes no mention of the GRU (Soviet military intelligence) which was involved, rather than the KGB. Of GRU matters Gordievsky seems to know little and when he does takes the KGB line. This is

damaging for Lord Armstrong's hopes that he can acquire Sir Roger Hollis's suggestion to Profumo, which Profumo deserves the greatest credit for resisting, that he should cultivate the known GRU man Eugene Ivanov, demands explanation. So also do Hollis's contacts at this time with Claude Cockburn, which Hollis effectively concealed from the Fluency committee interrogating him. Perhaps the GRU archives could help here, certainly Gordievsky cannot.

For the Hollis question to be laid to rest it seems we must wait for Gorbachev's offer of glasnost to go unconditional and for the GRU to be allowed to write their story, war and all, to stand alongside *KGB*.

Yours faithfully,

W. J. WEST,

Moortown, 36 Fairpark Road,

Exeter, Devon,

November 6.

Nuclear tests

From Mr Tony Smythe

Sir, Your report on the protests of Soviet MPs against the underground nuclear test on Novaya Zemlya (October 30) was encouraging. I do not anticipate a similar outcry at the British test expected in November.

The Soviet decision (I wonder who took it) to break its unilateral moratorium on testing after one year, coming as it did immediately after the award of the Nobel peace prize to President Gorbachev and his supportive letter to the co-presidents of International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW), was the cause of grave disillusion to all the governments and organisations who, conscious of the failure at the recent non-proliferation treaty review conference, still believe that

the partial test ban treaty should be amended next January to make it comprehensive.

The Soviet test went unreported in our press as far as I am aware. Yet it was a significant event on a number of counts, including what it tells us about a divided power structure in the USSR. All five nuclear weapons states have tested this year. By doing so, they are offering a green light to the growing number of nuclear-capable states, including Iraq, degrading the global environment and reminding us that, though the cold war has ended, modernisation and the nuclear weapons arms race are still with us.

Yours faithfully,

TONY SMYTHE (Director),

Medical Campaign Against Nuclear Weapons,

601 Holloway Road, N19,

November 6.

Women MPs' burden

From Mrs Renee Short

Sir, Your diarist refers to the demands of women MPs and staff at Westminster for better facilities (November 3). Every group of new women MPs has tried to improve their working conditions — with little success.

The real problems of the House, as I have always perceived them during almost 24 years there, lie not in the fact that there is no women's hairdresser nor even that laddered thighs cannot be replaced there but in the major problem of the sitting hours.

For full-time members the work of the House requires them to be on the premises almost every morning — either in their offices with their secretaries or attending meetings — and there are meetings throughout the week, every morn-

ing, afternoon and evening involving many members until very late at night. The normal day ends at 10pm but at certain times of the year can go on much later, even through the night until the next day. I know how difficult this was with two young children at home.

Our European colleagues can never understand how or why we tolerate such conditions nor why governments of either colour remain unmoved by the needs of their women members. Unless these basic problems are addressed women members will continue to bear a grossly unfair burden and their numbers will not increase significantly.

Yours faithfully,

RENEE SHORT,

70 Westminster Gardens,

Marshall Street, SW1,

November 6.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071) 782 5046.



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

November 8: Her Excellency Señora María A. Flores was received in audience by The Queen and presented her Letters of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the Republic of Cuba to the Court of St. James's.

Her Excellency was accompanied by the following members of the Embassy: Señor Miguel Martínez-Moles (Political Counsellor), Señor José Díaz Mirabal (Commercial Counsellor), Señor Heriberto Ricardo (Second Secretary) and Señor Lic. Jorge Díaz Estrada (Third Secretary).

Sir Patrick Wright (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) was present and the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

The Right Hon. Sir Geoffrey Howe, MP, was received in audience by The Queen upon relinquishing his appointment as Lord President of the Council.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh held an Evening Reception at Buckingham Palace for the Diplomatic Corps at which The Prince and Princess of Wales and The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester were present.

The String Orchestra of the Coldstream Guards played selections of music during the evening.

Her Majesty's Body Guard of the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen at Arms, the Queen's Body Guard of the Yeoman of the Guard and the Household Cavalry were on duty.

The Duke of Edinburgh, President of the Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufacture and Commerce, held a meeting at Buckingham Palace.

His Royal Highness, Honorary Member, visited the United Oxford and Cambridge University Club, Pall Mall.

Brigadier Clive Robertson was in attendance.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE November 8: The Princess Royal today visited Dorset and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Dorset (the Lord Digby).

Her Royal Highness opened Bournemouth General Hospital and afterwards attended a luncheon at King's Head, Wimbome, given by the Chairman of Dorset County Council.

This afternoon Her Royal Highness opened the new ward at Wimbome Hospital and, as Patron, National Association of Citizens Advice Bureau, opened the premises of Wimbome Citizens Advice Bureau.

Subsequently, The Princess

Royal opened Weymouth Library and the premises of Weymouth Citizens Advice Bureau.

This evening Her Royal Highness, Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Signals, attended the Master of Signals Farewell Dinner at the Royal Signals Headquarters Mess, Blandford and was received by the Master of Signals (Major General John Badcock).

Mrs. Richard Carew Pole was in attendance.

CLARENCE HOUSE November 8: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother this morning planted a Cross of Remembrance in the Royal British Legion Field of Remembrance at St. Margaret's Church, Westminster.

Ruth, Lady Fermoy and Major Sir Ralph Anstruther, Bt, were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE November 8: The Prince of Wales, President, King Edward's Hospital for London, accompanied by The Princess of Wales, attended a meeting to discuss the problems of homelessness, at Merchant Taylors' Hall, Threadneedle Street, EC2.

Major General Sir Christopher Airey was in attendance.

His Royal Highness, President, Business in the Community, attended the launch of Business in the Environment at Grosvenor House, Park Lane, London W1.

Commander Richard Aylard, RN and Mr. Gerald Ward were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE November 8: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, Colonel-in-Chief 15th/19th The King's Royal Hussars, this evening attended the Officers' Dinner at the Cavalry and Guards Club, Piccadilly, London W1.

The Duke of Gloucester and Major The Lord Napier and Ettrick were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE November 8: Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester today visited Southampton and was received by General Sir David Fraser (Vice Lord Lieutenant for Hampshire).

In the morning Her Royal Highness, Patron, Winged Fellowship Trust, opened the Kevin Black 'ring at Netley Waterhouse, Eastleigh.

In the afternoon, Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester visited Devonish House of the St. John's Winchester Charity where Her Royal Highness opened the Extra Care Unit.

Mrs. Michael Harvey was in attendance.

The Duke of Gloucester today presented the Structural Steel Design Awards 1990 at a luncheon at the Savoy Hotel, London, WC2.

Major Nicholas Barne was in attendance.

OBITUARIES

LAWRENCE DURRELL

Lawrence Durrell, writer, died on November 7 aged 78 at his home in Sommières in the South of France. He was born on February 27, 1912.

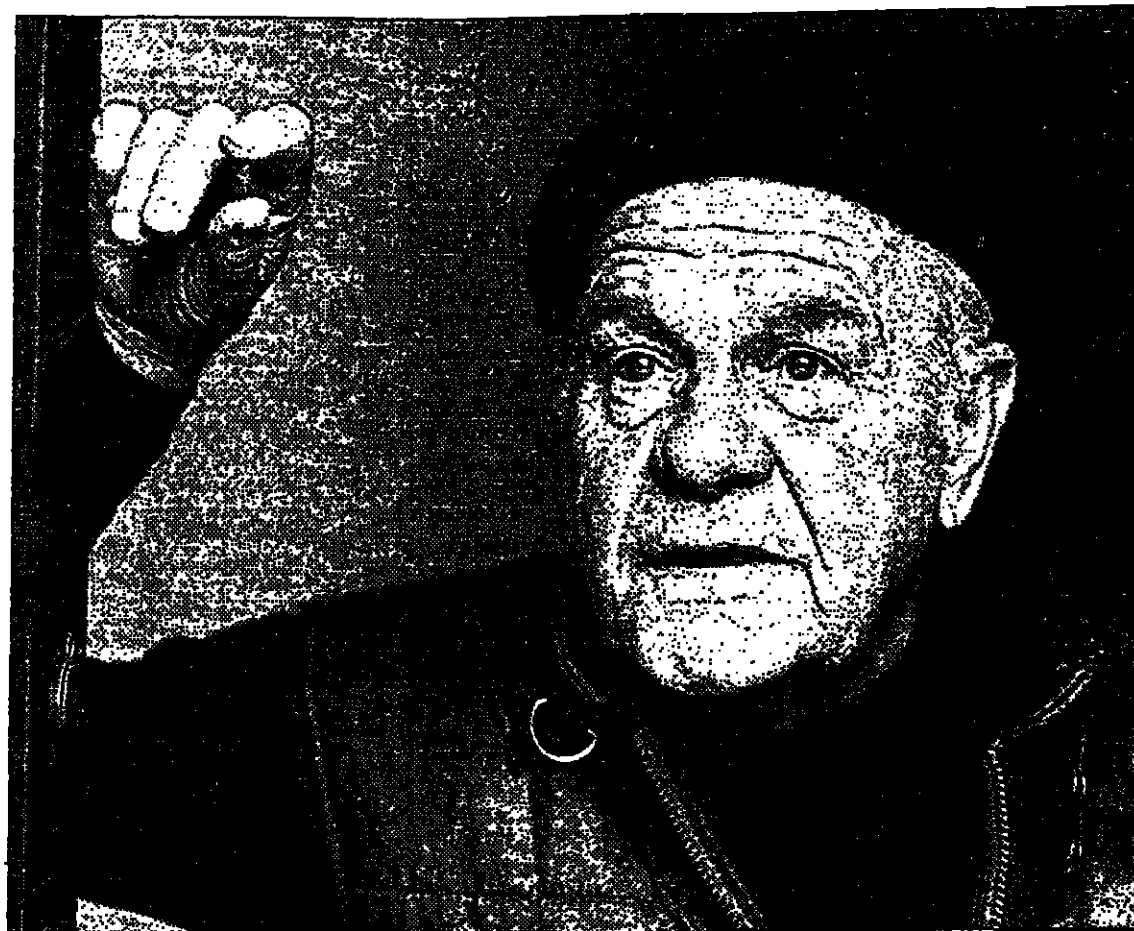
LAWRENCE Durrell was a writer of great versatility, as novelist, poet, travel writer and humorist. The four novels of *The Alexandria Quartet* formed one of the most widely read, and influential, works of this century, which had a profound effect on all those who were young at the time they were published — even if they were regarded with suspicion by many critics. They were translated and read on the Continent.

Durrell also had a considerable reputation as a poet. Indeed, it is ironic to think that had he not achieved the enormous success of the *Quartet* at the end of the 1950s, his standing as a poet might well have been higher than it is today. And he had a wide following as a travel writer, principally about the Greek islands, and as an affectionate satirist of diplomatic life.

Durrell lived and worked outside Britain for most of his life, and it was a certain un-English lack of restraint which disturbed some critics in this country. He was born in Jullundur, in northern India, the son of an engineer. He was educated at the College of St. Joseph in Darjeeling, and St. Edmund's School, Canterbury. He wanted to go to Cambridge but was not accepted, a fact which left him, at least in his earlier life, somewhat resentful and bitter.

During the 1930s he did a variety of jobs, such as playing jazz on the piano at a nightclub (and halfheartedly) working for an estate agent. From 1934 to 1940 he and his family lived mostly on Corfu, a period affectionately chronicled by his younger brother, the zoologist and writer Gerald Durrell. His first two novels, *Pied Piper of Lovers* (1935) and *Panic Spring* (1937), the latter published under the pseudonym of Charles Norden, were conventional and went largely unheeded.

With *The Black Book: an Agon*, published in Paris in 1938 by the Obelisk Press because it was regarded as "risqué", he achieved a modest reputation. It was an original and strangely disturbing work, saying much about Durrell himself with its telling of how Lawrence Lucifer broke away from the smug dullness of a decaying England by escape to sunny Greece and its vital, pagan values. Durrell had attached himself — mainly by correspondence — to the then notorious American writer Henry Miller and his circle, which he found congenial because he, like Miller, had come to eschew the values of modern life in favour of a somewhat paradoxical blend of



ancient "magic" (including astrology and other aspects of the occult) and "total sexual liberation". His interesting and revealing correspondence with Miller was later published as *Lawrence Durrell and Henry Miller* (1963).

Durrell was teaching English in Athens when the second world war broke out. He left Greece before it fell to the Germans and arrived in Egypt in April 1941 with his first wife and infant daughter. He spent some time in Egypt as a press attaché, and it was then, with the publication of *A Private Country* by Faber in 1943, that he began to be known as a poet. He had been publishing poems in private editions for many years, but this marked him out as a potentially major figure. As co-editor in 1945 of the anthology *Personal Landscape* he helped to make the reputation of such gifted poets as Keith Douglas and Bernard Spencer; he was legendarily generous to other writers.

After the war was over, he continued in press relations jobs, in Egypt, Greece, Yugoslavia and Cyprus. He was also the director of British Council institutes at Kalamata, in Greece, and Córdoba, in Argentina. By then he had published the first of his books about Greek

islands, *Prospero's Cell* (1945), about Corfu, and he followed this with *Reflections on a Marine Venus* (1953), about Rhodes, and *Bitter Lemons* (1957), about Cyprus and the troubles there. This last was so successful, winning him the Duff Cooper Memorial Prize, that he was able to earn his living as a writer.

Real fame and fortune, however, came with *The Alexandria Quartet*, of which the first volume, *Justine*, was published in 1957, followed by *Balthazar* (1958), *Mountolive* (1958) and *Clea* (1960). This work contained the quintessence of Durrell's own complex experience he employed a relativistic point of view to tell a lush and sensual story about the life of a group of contrasting people of Alexandria, a "dead city". It was a complex and often lyrical work in which the "hero" was none other than Alexandria itself.

The appeal of these novels was partly in their expression, in a drab and grey period, of a lavish delight in colour and extravagance, a fundamentally erotic acceptance of life. But the construction with the successive revelation in *Balthazar* and *Mountolive*, had the cold ingenuity of a good detective story; and the great set scenes, the duck-shooting party, the ball, the fair, the

mourning for Narouz, are colourful evocations of scene and atmosphere. The sources for the *Quartet* were enormously varied, chief among them being *The Arabian Nights*, the thought of Albert Einstein, the view of character taken by the Italian dramatist Luigi Pirandello, the ideas of the somewhat obscure Austrian psychoanalyst Georg Groddeck (about whom Durrell wrote a book in 1961) and the whole long panorama of mystical Middle Eastern history from the time of the Knights Templar onwards.

For some years after the appearance of the *Quartet* Durrell confined himself to poems, plays and lightweight work like his very popular *Antebus* stories. His verse plays appeared to many critics literary and outmoded, though the best of them, *An Irish Faustus*, had a considerable success in repertory. Over the years, in addition to such varied writing of his own, he also did a number of translations. The most remarkable of these was his brilliant version of the 19th-century Greek writer Emmanuel Roidis's novel, *The Curious History of Pope Joan* (1954), which Durrell later revised as *Pope Joan: A Romantic Biography* (1960).

His next serious novel, *Tunc*,

which appeared in 1968, got an almost universally hostile reception from the critics, not least because of its title, a childishly punning anagram. Perhaps this prevented its being fairly judged as what it set out to be, a kind of "Gothick" fantasy, and moral allegory, rather than a "straight" novel. There seemed a touch of strain, and almost desperation in the very inventiveness of the plot. Yet the expression of that note of desperation was at least genuine. Durrell had been very deeply distressed by the death of his third wife, Claude, with whom, after the failure of two earlier marriages, he had settled down to a life in the south of France of peace, order and contentment. Loneliness, and a preoccupation with illness and death, are the strong motive forces behind *Tunc*. It was perhaps the most human of all his books in its coming to terms with fear, unhappiness, and the hollowness of a success that may have meant the barring away of one's soul. It was followed in 1978 by *Livia*, also a work of feeling.

Durrell continued to express himself through his poetry, and his *Collected Poems* (1980), edited by James Bingham, were greeted with warm approval. Delicately written, they contain a deep, poignant and direct expression of his feelings of solitude, and of his great sensitivity. Durrell's most eloquent expression of his personal predicament is probably, however, in the collection of letters and essays entitled *Spirit of Place* (1969), edited by his friend Alan G. Thomas. In these the sensitive man who feels he has no roots expresses his passionate need to belong to certain precise locations, enshrined by history and by personal nostalgia.

Physically, Durrell was a man of great energy, walking and swimming regularly — and enjoying in abundance the best wines of wherever he happened to be. Shy with strangers, he was warm and hospitable towards his friends. He rarely visited Britain in his later years, but remained a patriot in an old-fashioned Kipling-esque way. For a period he made his home in Cyprus where he was director of public relations for the government for several years in the 1950s. Later he had lived in France in the village of Sommières. His latest book, *Caesar's Fast Ghost: a Portrait of Provence* is to appear shortly.

Lawrence Durrell was four times married and there were two daughters of his first two marriages, to Nancy Myers and Eve Cohen, one of whom, Sappho, took her own life in 1985. His third wife, Claude, died in 1967. He married fourthly, in 1973, Chloé de Boysson. This marriage was dissolved in 1979.

Today's royal engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh will unveil a bust of Admiral of the Fleet Lord Fraser of North Cape at HM Naval Base, Portsmouth, at 11.15, and will attend a reception given by the International Council for Bird Preservation's Rare Bird Club at Windsor Castle at 6.00.

The Princess Royal will attend a seminar on "Educational Development in the Third World" at the College of St Mark and St John Foundation, Plymouth, at 10.05; as Patron of SENSE, South East of Scotland, she will visit the Newton Abbey at 12.10; and, as Patron of the Butler Trust, will visit HM Prison Channings Wood, Denbury, Newton Abbot, at 2.00. Later, as Chief Commandant of the WRNS, she will attend an officers' dinner at HMS Collingwood, Fareham, at 6.10.

Princess Margaret, as a Visitor of The King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Foundation, will open the conference room at Cumberland Lodge, Windsor Great Park, at 6.30.

The Duke of Gloucester will visit the Caravan Show at Earls Court at 2.00.

The Duchess of Gloucester will attend the Rainbow Ball at the Hotel Inter-Continental at 7.30 in aid of the British Dyslexia Association.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A.B. Burkard and Miss A. Brownhill. The engagement is announced between Anthony Burkard, elder son of Mr and Mrs A.G. Burkard, and Miss A. Brownhill, daughter of Mr and Mrs A.G. Burkard, of Levensnet, France, and Alison, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Kenneth Brownhill, of Rowington, Warwickshire.

Mr R.J. Carr and Miss S. Moretti. The engagement is announced between Christopher John, elder son of Mr and Mrs R.J. Carr, formerly of Unduckri, Sudan, and now of Zomba, Malawi, and Sandra, elder daughter of the late Almo and of Mrs Jacqueline Moretti, formerly of Buenos Aires, Argentina, and now of Geneva, Switzerland.

Mr S.P. Davies and Miss R.C. Petham Barr. The engagement is announced between Simon, elder son of The Archdeacon of St Albans and Mrs Philip Davies, of St Albans, Hertfordshire, and Robin, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Petham Barr, of Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire.

Mr R.A. Hunter-Gordon and Miss F.B. Scott. The engagement is announced between Richard Adam, son of Mrs V. Hunter-Gordon and the late Major Patrick Hunter-Gordon, of Beaulieu, Hampshire, and Frances, bridecake, elder daughter of Major-General and Mrs R. Scott, of Devon.

Mr J. Jolliffe and Miss H.P. Lewis. The engagement is announced between John, son of Mr and Mrs William Jolliffe, of Reading, Berkshire, and Helen, daughter of Professor and Mrs R. Ivan Lewis, of Newcastle upon Tyne.

Mr A. Lloyd Webber and Miss M.A. Gordon. The engagement is announced between Mr Andrew Lloyd Webber, elder son of the late Mr William Lloyd Webber and of Mrs Jean Lloyd Webber, of London, and Miss M.A. Gordon, second daughter of Brigadier and Mrs Adam Gordon, of Burgh, Suffolk.

Mr S.D. Musgrave and Miss T.S. Maynard. The engagement is announced between Simon Dominic, elder son of Mr and Mrs Michael Musgrave, of 5 Bathwick Hill, Bath, Avon, and Tessa, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Frederick Maynard, of 43 Bury Walk, London, SW3.

Mr S.C. Routledge and Miss A.L. Carling. The engagement is announced between Stephen Routledge, elder son of Mr and Mrs A.G.C. Routledge, of Chardstock, Devon, and Annabelle Louise, only daughter of Mr and Mrs D.G. Carling, of Churt, Surrey.

Mr W.J. Sewell and Miss S.E. Girling. The engagement is announced between William, son of Robert and Jean Sewell, of Kensington Church Street, London, and Sarah, daughter of James and Bridget Girling, of Hothfield, Kent.

Mr S.R. Sidebottom and Miss C.M.E. Walder. The engagement is announced between Stephen, only son of Mr and Mrs William Sidebottom, of Kenilworth, Warwickshire, and Kate, second daughter of the late Mr David Walder, MP and Mrs Elspeth Walder, of Kennington, London.

Mr D. Trucco and Miss C.E. Parsons. The engagement is announced between Emanuele, son of Dr and Signora R. Trucco, of Genova, Italy, and Clare, daughter of Mr and Mrs N.C. Parsons, of Piddington, Northamptonshire.

Mr R. West and Miss K.E. MacLeod. The engagement is announced between Richard, son of the late Peter West and of Mrs Muriel West, of Holland Park, London, and Katharine Elizabeth, daughter of Mr and Mrs Norman MacLeod, of Shenfield, Essex.

Mr N. Wright and Miss C. Turner. The engagement is announced between Nigel, son of Mr William Wright and Mrs E. Davison, and Caroline, younger daughter of Professor and Mrs Robin Turner, of Exeter.

Marriages

Mr F.W. Deppford and Mrs B.K. Morris.

The marriage took place quietly on Saturday, November 3, 1990, at St Peter's Church, Wimborne, Dorset, between Mr Frederick William Deppford, of Hunigate House, Emswott, and Mrs Betty Kate Morris, of Ancaster Farm, Stonea.

Mr R.J.S. Ingalls and Miss K.P. Sandford.

Robert and Karen were married on November 3, 1990, at the Church of St Mary the Virgin, Mortlake, London.

EWART ESCRITT

Charles Ewart Escritt, OBE, former secretary of Oxford University Appointments Committee, died on October 31 aged 85. He was born on August 26, 1905.

WHEN Ewart Escritt became secretary of Oxford University Appointments Committee in 1947 university careers departments were virtually unknown. Escritt changed all that. In the 1940s and early 1950s, information about occupations and employment was not readily available. Characteristically, Escritt set about creating it. He produced typed foolscap pages on each vacancy and employer. He was a prodigious worker and his memory, backed by an excellent filing system, seldom let him down. Escritt was an innovator, who brought a

sense of vision to the work of careers advice, and set standards which are now taken for granted. His belief was that undergraduates, as intelligent people, should be encouraged to make their decisions on the basis of good information. This approach to careers advice was one of the factors which helped to shape the work of careers advisory services in both the new and expanded universities following the Robbins report.

Charles Ewart Escritt was the son of the Rev Charles Escritt. He was educated at Christ's Hospital and then at Keble College. On going down from Oxford he taught for a short time at Bromsgrove School. He then worked as a freelance commercial artist and in 1933 joined Tootal Broadhurst Lee, becoming

assistant sales manager. At the outbreak of war he was sent to Singapore as a captain in the Royal Army Service Corps and was captured by the Japanese. He was a prisoner of war from 1942 to 1945. He taught himself Japanese and became an interpreter. He developed no bitterness but an interest in Japanese history and culture that remained with him for the rest of his life. During the last few years he worked on a history of the infamous Burma Railway, translating a work by the Japanese engineer who designed it.

Escritt enjoyed life. He was an excellent company, and liked good food and wine. He had a great sense of fun and was witty. His notices about industrial and commercial employers were written in his own racy, individual style. His

correspondence was equally lively and sometimes reflected his enjoyment of the cut and thrust of controversy. For many people, particularly leading industrialists, Ewart Escritt was Oxford.

He played an active and formative role in the Oxford University business summer school, which blossomed in the 1960s into the Oxford Centre for Management Studies, now Templeton College. In 1965 Escritt was made a fellow of Keble College. He was appointed OBE in 1970. Escritt was keenly interested in cricket. He remained a competent artist, and regularly used his own line cuts for his Christmas cards.

In 1939 he married Ruth Mary Metcalf. She and their two sons and a daughter survive him.

ARTHUR OSMAN

Arthur William Osman, former Midlands Correspondent of The Times, died on October 31 of a heart attack, aged 61. He was born on November 29, 1928.

ARTHUR Osman was engaged to work for The Times because he was fearless and independent. A short, stocky man, he bridled at pomposity. "I don't even like being called a journalist. I am a reporter and I am proud to be one," he would tell young colleagues. He joined The Times in December 1968 and left in 1984 soon after he was invited to work in London. "Real people don't live here," he stormed and promptly returned to Birmingham.

Osman was a tenacious and accurate reporter who prized facts but was rightly sus-

picious of speculation and did not much appreciate nuance, preferring directness. He was straightforward himself and liked other people to be so.

His affection for the Midlands can be seen from his career. He was educated at King's Norton Grammar School, Birmingham, and in 1944 joined Caters News Agency in Birmingham. Then he spent two years in the Royal Navy, returning in 1948 to the agency. In 1951 he joined the Coventry Evening Telegraph moving back to Caters after two years. He moved next to the News of the World and in 1961 joined The Birmingham Post, and then the Daily Herald. He stayed there until he joined The Times in 1968.

A widower, he leaves three daughters.

Shrine gives up its secrets

By NORMAN HAMMOND, ARCHAEOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

A NEW study of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem suggests that part of the original shrine built by the Emperor Constantine in the fourth century may survive, and that within it are the remains of an earlier rock tomb, apparently that attributed to the burial of Christ.

The study counters fears that medieval destruction and subsequent restoration had removed all evidence of the sepulchre.

The survey, funded by Gresham College in the City of London and executed by a team led by Professor Martin Biddle of Hertford College, Oxford, concentrated on the Edicule, the small chapel within the vast church that encloses the reputed tomb of Christ. The Edicule was rebuilt in 1809-10 after a fire in 1808, but the team's work has shown that earlier sections survive.

The history of the building is complex: it was founded in the fourth century when Roman engineers dug below the forum of Aelia Capitolina, the city that had grown up on the site of Jerusalem after its destruction in AD 70. The fact that they sought and found a rock-tomb below the centre of the city, rather than outside its walls, suggests, according to Professor Biddle, that the traditional location of the tomb of Christ had been preserved in the Judeo-Christian community for three centuries.

"There is no doubt that what they did find is the core of the building today," he said. The engineers cut away most of the quarry face pierced by tombs, leaving a projecting plug of rock containing the one identified as Christ's, around which a church was built.

The shrine was sacked by the Persians in the seventh century, then systematically wrecked in AD 1009 by order of the Caliph al-Hakim, although the survey shows that his order of total demolition was not carried out. The roof and end walls of the rock chamber were demolished, but the north and south walls, the internal shelf where the body would have been laid and part of the entry in the east wall survived.

The Byzantine emperor Constantine Monomachos restored the shrine in the 1020s, and it was adorned by the Crusaders, who also built the vast outer church to enclose the Edicule. When the Saracens under Saladin captured Jerusalem in 1187 they did not harm the shrine, and it remained to be visited by pilgrims in the Middle Ages, and to be restored by Benedict of Ragusa in 1555.

The bottom two courses of masonry of the present Edicule date to 1555 or earlier, although the upper one has been reset," Professor Biddle said. The foundation and the outline of the plan could go back to the Byzantine restoration of the 1020s, or could even be part of Constantine's church. Apart from noting that the basal masonry is of

good classical form, Professor Biddle prefers not to speculate, although he believes that this year's work has shown that some blocks in the floor of the rotunda enclosing the Edicule may remain from the fourth century.

The professor said that inside the tomb chamber some of the marble facing added by Benedict of Ragusa survives over the tomb recess. In the top of the eastern entry a rough stone surface is detectable within the 19th-century rebuilding while this could be part of the original doorway, Professor Biddle believes it to be Byzantine in date.

A dispute is taking place between the Greek Orthodox community who control most of the Holy Sepulchre, and want to conserve as much of the later buildings as possible, and the Franciscans who want to strip away later accretions to expose the early features of the shrine. Some resolution will be needed soon: the survey has shown that the exterior of the Edicule is in extremely poor condition.

Professor Biddle emphasised that the survey was being made freely available to all seven of the religious communities with rights in the Holy Sepulchre, to form the basis for their decision on what restoration, or removal of existing structures should take place. "We were just making the most thorough record possible using normal architectural and archaeological methods, stone by stone."

ARTS

GALLERIES

Cut and dried assembly

These days the traditional media spill out in all directions. Sculptors, in particular, use unexpected materials in unexpected ways: they are likely to incorporate painting, photography and whatever else strikes their fancy into sculptural works that may well then be labelled installations. Even painters do not stick to the confines of a simple rectangular canvas, choosing instead to multiply, cut up or plaster all over with foreign bodies.

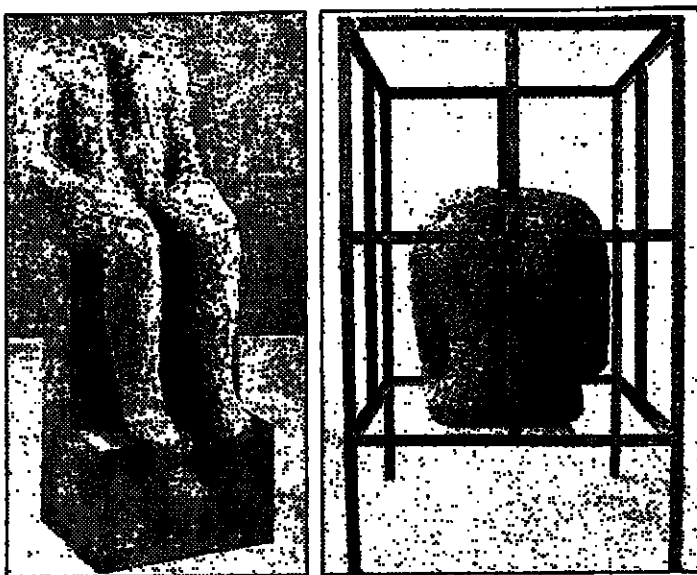
Magdalena Abakanowicz, whose most recent work is on show at Marlborough Fine Art, has long been expert at varying her materials. She appears to have a particular love of obviously organic materials, notably wood and various kinds of fibre. Almost all the current selection relates to the human figure: sometimes bodies without heads, but also heads without bodies. The overall impression is of a mysterious and perhaps slightly sinister assembly.

Guarding the entrance is a seated, headless figure in bronze. Otherwise the standing figures, the most prominent element in which is treated burlap, group together according to the conformation of the gallery. Here they seem more regimented than usual, suggesting images of the prison or concentration camp (especially since one of the single seated figures is placed within a cage). Elsewhere, more loosely grouped, they evoke primordial rites. That reading is reinforced by other pieces, such as "Errant", a tightly bound bundle of stakes which must have some ritual use, or the bronze animal skulls on sticks. The world that Abakanowicz creates is remote and uncomfortable, but it exerts a unique hold on the imagination.

The sculptures of Vladimir Tavin (Galerie Besson) have something of the same quality, though if Abakanowicz seems to come from some shadowy northern forest, Tavin's work inhabits the bright sunshine of classical Greece or dynastic Egypt. Tavin is in fact Russian, and known entirely as a potter. Porcelain is the material of these recent works, made partly in Leningrad and partly in Cardiff, but their effect is definitely sculptural rather than pottery. They all represent torsos of standing figures, male or female, clothed or unclothed, singly or in pairs.

The largest work is a series of nine female figures, the Muses, each of which is allusively characterised according to her traditional attributes. But even down to the smallest, it is astonishing how much variety Tavin extracts from this one basic form, how cunningly he discloses and conceals by his manipulation of texture, and how he makes the viewer see different things simply by moving further away, closer, to one side or the other.

John Russell Taylor finds that a strange, even sinister use of unexpected materials is a feature of current sculpture exhibitions



Odd materials used in unfamiliar ways: Abakanowicz's bronze "Sage E" and burlap "Figure in Iron House" (top), and Bainbridge's fur, plywood and fibreglass "Europa" (bottom)

Tavin's sculptures are like living things. Those of Eric Bainbridge (Riverside Studios Gallery) are almost defiantly dead and synthetic-looking. Bainbridge loves the most stomach-turning materials, particularly artificial fur fabric, and usually pastes them over hard, unyielding shapes. His colours range from eye-splitting scarlet and sickly heliotrope to cheap teddy-bear shades of brown. He likes, also, to play tricks with scale. Those who remember his giant fur-covered teapots in the *British Art Show* earlier this year will not be too surprised to encounter in "Europa" a vast teddy-bear seat from some giant baby's bottle sticking out from the hidden end of a large neutral-coloured construction. "In Heliotrope" is more mysterious. An upended box with a flower-shaped hole cut out of its upper front, it

could be a fancy coffin, an enlarged soap dish, a tarted-up rustic privy. It could even be art.

Any description of Graham Rich's work at East West, one of the newest galleries in the Portobello area, is bound to sound whimsical and dismissible. Pieces of painted driftwood with tiny boats incised on them, or even a large sculpture which uses as its prime component an old, wrecked rowing-boat, do not sound as though they would attract the good, the sharp, and the serious.

However, the results are subtle, delicate and magical — and for all their superficial blandishments, eminently serious. The bits of wood, some of them tiny, some quite extensive, are all apparently used as found, and the images of sailing-boats are created simply by scraping off the upper layers of paint to reveal another colour

beneath. It sounds as though a five-year-old could do it, but to use the accidental and unpredictable with such finesse requires the most finely developed aesthetic sense. The big installation, "Trying to Reach the Sea", is possibly less interesting, but equally delicate and precise in its effects. And if burlap is an acceptable material for art, why not flotsam and jetsam?

In this galaxy of sculptor-painters, Maria Chevaka is clearly coming at the central business of art from the painter's side. She was strikingly included in the last show at Anderson O'Day, which was devoted to the proposition that "small is beautiful". Now she follows on with a show of her own. There are still a couple of very small pieces, but in general she has seized the opportunity to burst out in all directions. Most of the works are in two or more panels, to produce sculptural shapes on the wall. She also uses collage techniques to incorporate materials that are so wildly divergent in texture or prominent in relief that they, too, constitute a sculptural element within the general convention of paint.

Though this probably sounds rather flamboyant in effect, Chevaka's strong suit is subtlety. At first viewing, the most striking effects are hardly visible: it is only after careful scrutiny that these largely abstract pictures begin to yield up their secrets. Of course, the fine lines and feathery stichings are felt from the start. Chevaka is also brilliant at incorporating representation when it is least expected: the giant lips in "Seemingly" and "Duplicity" define themselves as lips only after they have been read as cloudy patterns without precise meaning. Again, the art is unsettling and, to judge at least by the titles, it is meant to be.

Finally, some addenda. The forthcoming major retrospective of Richard Long I mentioned in connection with his current show at the Tate Gallery will be at the Hayward Gallery next year. And the address of the Ben Uri Gallery — now showing the art of Solomon J. Solomon — is 21 Dean Street, London W1.

Magdalena Abakanowicz: Marlborough Fine Art, 6 Albemarle Street, London W1 (071-491 1706) Tues-Fri 10-5.30, Sat 10-12.30, until Nov 16.

Vladimir Tavin: Galerie Besson, 15 Royal Arcade, London W1 (071-491 1706) Tues-Fri 10-5.30, Sat 10-12.30, until Nov 16.

Eric Bainbridge: Riverside Studios Gallery, Crisp Road, London W6 (081-721 2251) Tues-Sat 1-8, until Nov 18.

Graham Rich: East West, 8 Blenheim Court, London W11 (071-229 7981) Tues-Sat 11-7, until Nov 24.

Maria Chevaka: Anderson O'Day, 255 Portobello Road, London W11 (071-221 7592) Tues-Sat 10.30-5.30, until Nov 17.



Stephen Markeson, a Times staff photographer, has been made a fellow of the Royal Photographic Society, for his work in visual journalism and portraiture. "King's Road punks and Chelsea Pensioners", 1987, (above) was his contribution to *A Day for Life*.

CLASSICAL MUSIC

Sinfonietta clings to life

Old arguments have to be stated again, since again the London Sinfonietta is in trouble. No concerts are assured after November 23. Private funds that were coming from Kuwait have, for obvious reasons, suddenly vanished, though what is most bizarre about this story is the fact that a leading British musical institution should have been left in such a perilous financial condition by the government.

Equally shameful is the fact that the Sinfonietta has for years been so underfunded that it is cheaper for British festivals to bring in foreign new-music groups, enjoying healthy state support, than to use the home team.

Why does this matter? It matters because the Sinfonietta is the only organisation in London that regularly presents the enormous repertoire of 20th-century music for small orchestra, a repertoire that stretches from the central classics of Stravinsky, Schoenberg and Varèse to music the Sinfonietta has itself brought into being, including works by Berio, Birtwistle, Xenakis and many others. The Sinfonietta has become the main centre of creative musical life in this country, fostering the present unparalleled flowering of compositional talent here.

It matters because the Sinfonietta enjoys unrivalled international prestige in its field, which enables it to work with (and therefore enables us to hear) outstanding composers from abroad. It has a long-established educational programme, so helping to form committed practitioners and committed audiences for tomorrow. Finally, it matters because, in a backward-looking musical world, the

Sinfonietta is a rare sign of belief in the future.

But of course, that belief would be compromised if the Sinfonietta were simply to be preserved as it is. The ensemble needs the long-term funding that will enable it to pursue a strong policy of innovation. It also needs to break away from patterns of programming established by its former artistic director, the late Michael Vyrer. There are, then, obligations on both sides: on the government to keep the Sinfonietta going, and on the Sinfonietta to recover from the shock of losing its guiding spirit and emerge again anew.

That re-thinking will, however, need better morale than the Sinfonietta can be expected to manage at the moment. Gloom hung over its two concerts this week, in which new British works were placed alongside pieces from Eastern Europe. The effect was that the hoped-for salute to the new democracies sounded unconvincing. Given the state of Eastern European politics, that may have been appropriate.

Gabriel's *Good Night*, whose song finale had been given at the Vyrer memorial concert in the summer, proved a difficult half-hour for non-angels when heard at full length, even in an angelic performance by Nicole Tibbels with the flautist Sebastian Bell, pianist John Constable and go-conductor David Hockings. Such extreme simplicity is as challenging as another composer's density and complexity.

Pawel Szymanowski, a Pole of the next generation, belongs in the same world of elementary gestures moving through slow cycles of repetition, though his quasi-*un-sinfonietta* showed also a quirky Schmitz-like ferreting through

Baroque and Mozartian clichés, as well as a puzzling, again Schmitz-like, doubtfulness of intention, so that one did not know whether one was supposed to be awed, bored or tickled. The only certainty was that the piece failed to live-up to its models.

Of the new British pieces, Jonathan Lloyd's *Revelation* for eight voices was a disappointing follow-up to his *Mass* of a few years back. Again there was a lot of oddly mechanical repetition and nearly uncomfortable vocal writing, but the ideas were distinctly more ordinary. What remains engaging is this maverick composer's ability to look at musical — and in this case religious — commonplace as if they were astonishing.

Goffrey King and Martin Butler, both writing for purely instrumental resources, shared something of Lloyd's feeling for the dislocated and untoward, which in King's case became the explicitly surreal: his *Magritte Weather* kept up a high level of oddity and of beautifully controlled scoring right from its opening sneezes with wind-machine to its final patch of *moto perpetuo*. If it was never clear quite why all these things were raining in the same sky, that perhaps was part of the point.

Butler's *Jazz Machines* was based on a premise less original than he seems to imagine, since the idea of stiffly material jazz in cross-cut choruses goes back at least to Stravinsky's *Regime*. However, a woefully unsynchronised performance can have given only a rudimentary, and infuriating, impression of the piece. The Sinfonietta's present depression was only too apparent.

PAUL GRIFFITHS

RECORDS: ROCK AND JAZZ

Birdsong, blues and patchy warbling

Chuck Prophet: Brother Aldo (Fire LP22)
Happy Mondays: Thrills 'n' Pills and Bells (Factory FACT 320)

VIRTUOSO rock guitarists come a dime a dozen, but Chuck Prophet belongs to a more select breed. Listening to his solo debut, *Brother Aldo*, one thinks of players like Keith Richards or Jerry Garcia, not because Prophet sounds like any of them, but because he invests his instrument with a similarly fiery eloquence that owes little to formal technique.

Moonlighting from the heroic bump and grind of his work with San Franciscoan rebel-rockers Green On Red, Prophet has gone for a warm, ramshackle combination of hick, country-rock, cabaret, such as "Queen Bee", and forlorn bluesy ballads such as "Rage and Storm".

The material, most of it original, is of variable quality, and like so many rock 'n' roll sidemen who suddenly find the main microphone pointing their way, Prophet's sing-

ing tends towards an ersatz Dylan drawl, pleasantly leavened by the more dulcet descent of Stephanie Finch. The gloves come off only twice: for the irresistible Creedence Clearwater Revival-type swag of "Brother Aldo" and the long, minor-key lament of "Scarecrow". The results are spectacular on both occasions, and "Scarecrow", written by Patrick Winningham, romps home with a magnificent extended solo, a perfect evocation of the brooding insolence that lies at the heart of Prophet's playing.

Mancunian hipsters Happy Mondays, who currently yield only to the Stone Roses in fashionable notoriety, prefer to trade on an image of slobbish indifference, and vocalist Shaun Ryder is clearly nerd-rock incarnate. Yet *Thrills 'n' Pills and Bells* is an album which comes good despite Ryder's often rather pointless stream-of-consciousness warbling.

The songs are rocky dance-floor constructions, built from odd shreds of riffs, stolen tidbits (like the quotes from

"Lady Marmalade" that live up "Kinky Afro") and patchy half-formed ideas, all bolted together by the rhythm section of drummer Gary Whelan and bassist Paul Ryder.

Numbers such as "God's Cop" and "Donovan" betray plenty of attitude, but a limited fund of imagination. With his incisive style and bright tone, it is usually guitarist Mark Day who prods the songs into life, and his jagged contributions to "Grandbag's Funeral" and "Holidays" are foremost among the album's patchy highlights.

DAVID SINCLAIR

Various Artists: Birdmen & Birdsongs, Vols 1&2 (Virgin Vision VVD47/748)

ALL-STAR tributes are hit-and-miss occasions. There can be unforgettable moments, but sentimentality and a lack of rehearsal time often conspire to defeat the music. Filmed at the Palais des Festivals in Cannes, the video *Birdmen & Birdsongs* avoids

most of the pitfalls, although the two volumes could easily have been condensed to one cassette.

Hard-core beboppers will prefer volume one, in which Parker-Gillespie standards are re-created by a quintet led by Red Rodney. The trumpeter has, understandably, slowed down over the years, but if anything he is more fluent today than he was 40 years ago as a Parker sideman.

Monty Alexander, Roy Haynes and Rufus Reid form a reliable rhythm section. The alto duties are shouldered by the West Coast saxophonist Frank Morgan, whose life has mirrored the excesses of Parker's own career. Faithful as they are, however, the performances are never going to replace the originals.

Volume two is more rewarding, with Phil Woods' brief display showing how Parker's innovations have been absorbed into the conventions of modern jazz. Moreover, as a working band, Woods' group inevitably shows more purpose than Rodney's *ad hoc* gathering. Most of the tape, however, is devoted to an appearance by the vocalist Jon Hendricks. His florid scat singing has always been an acquired taste, yet this is a surprisingly satisfying set. Various members of the Hendricks clan provide harmonies while the veteran drummer Jimmy Cobb keeps the band in line.

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A-Z GUIDE TO ROCK

Part 53 of David Sinclair's collectors' A-Z, a guide to the essential albums of the most enduring performers of rock. To qualify for inclusion in this series, an act must have

sustained a recording career of at least 10 years, and have mastered at least one decent album during that time. The entries are designed to be pasted on to index cards

THE WHO

Never a group to do things by half, the Who's career swung from the violent proto-punk energy of early singles like "Anyways, Anyhow, Anywhere" and "My Generation" to the overweening pretensions of putative masterworks such as *Tommy* (1969) and *Quadrophenia* (1973). With their implausible, but symbolic narratives and oblique musical flourishes, these "rock operas", as they became known, were the closest that rock has yet come to claiming the status of a major art form. But the group is better remembered for the pithy, spluttering statements of teenage angst so brilliantly encapsulated in "I Can't Explain", "Pictures of Lily" and other hits collected on *Who's Better Who's Best* (1988). Always a great stage act, the Who's essence is best captured on *Live at Leeds* (1970). Whirlwind deliveries of "Substitute", "Young Man Blues" and "Summer-time Blues" capture the band at a peak of fiery glory, before the hard thinking began to overtake the hard rocking.



Soulful: Winwood

STEVE WINWOOD

Incredibly, Steve Winwood had done his time in the Spencer Davis Group, Traffic and Blind Faith all before his 21st birthday in 1969. With his soulful, high-ranging voice, multi-instrumental abilities and meticulous song-writing skills, he is a musician's musician, an introverted performer whose search for a higher aesthetic has tended to take precedence over the quest for a higher chart position. Even so, having established his solo credentials with *Are of a Diver* (1961) and *Talking Back to the Night* (1982), he has gone on to find a lucrative niche at the international adult-rock market. The breakthrough, especially in America, came with *Back in the High Life* (1986), an album of superlative poise which earned him a Grammy and a No 1 hit with "Higher Love". Roll With It (1988), continued the tradition of excellence but in a more relaxed, soul-funk vein, with notable contributions from the Memphis Horns on the title track and others.

NEXT WEEK: Stevie Wonder, Yes

BBC 1

- 6.00 Cee-fax
6.30 BBC Breakfast News with Laurie Meyer and Jill Dando
8.50 Daytime UK
9.00 News, regional news and weather
9.05 Bump. Animated cartoon about an elephant 3.55 Connors. Sophie Aldred and Simon Davies with the children's general knowledge show 4.10 The Jetsons. Cartoon 4.35 Record Breakers. Roy Castle and Cheryl Baker introduce more record attempts
5.00 Newsround 5.10 Byker Grove. Drama series about a Tyneside youth club. (Cee-fax)
5.35 Neighbours (r). (Cee-fax). Northern Ireland: Sportswide 5.40 Inside Uster
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Peter Sissons and Moira Stuart. Weather
6.30 Regional News Magazines
7.00 Wogan in Hollywood. From the NBC studio in California, our Ted talks to the comedienne Roseanne Barr with her husband Tom Arnold, and from the set of Twin Peaks, Kyle MacLachlan
7.30 Only Fools and Horses: No Greater Love. Superb comedy of wide boys and grannies in south London. From Rodney Taylor in love, brother Dai lends an unapologetic helping hand (r). (Cee-fax)
8.00 Bruce Forsyth's Generation Game. More family game show entertainment with the old trouper, assisted by the statuesque Roseanne Barr. (Cee-fax)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Michael Buerk. Regional news and weather
9.30 Casualty: Big Boys Don't Cry. The hospital drama remains fresh and often painful but the political sting, which used to draw criticism, has largely gone. (Cee-fax)
1.50 Film: The Outlaw (1943, b/w) starring Jane Russell as a half-breed sparking off a quarrel between Billy the Kid (Jack Palance) and Doc Holliday (Walter Huston) and Pat Garrett (Thomas Mitchell). Offbeat western.

handsomely photographed by Gregg Toland, in which the main focus was on the bosom of the newly-discovered Me Russell. The amount of cleavage she displayed in the film kept the censors arguing for a full six years.

Directed by Howard Hughes about an elephant 3.55 Connors. Sophie Aldred and Simon Davies with the children's general knowledge show 4.10 The Jetsons. Cartoon 4.35 Record Breakers. Roy Castle and Cheryl Baker introduce more record attempts
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BBC Newsround: Marcel Ophuis (10.20pm)

10.20 Inside Story Special: November Days.
CHOICE: A documentary by the French filmmaker Marcel Ophuis about the disappearance of the Basque Wall, a complex element of hard reporting with attempts to go wider than the immediate events and suggest historical parallels. As a piece of reportage November Days covers some of the same ground as Monday's Channel 4 contribution to And the Winner Takes All, with Egon Krenz and other yesterday's men looking back on where they went wrong. Ophuis also uses the device of showing clips from BBC news coverage, picking faces from the crowds and doing follow-up interviews. Moving from the factual to the fanciful, Ophuis calls up footage from the MGM Julius Caesar to cast Krenz as a latter-day Brutus and pulls in songs from Dietrich and Crosby. The film is a piece of layered artifice, as by turns illuminating, diffuse and puzzlingly off-beam.
12.30am Weather

BBC 2

- 8.00 News
8.15 Westminster. A roundup of business in the Lords and Commons.
9.00 It Doesn't Have To Hurt Series about health and fitness. With June Whitfield (r). (Cee-fax)
9.10 Daytime on Two begins with a programme for RE teachers and includes 9.40 The industrial development of the Cornish Firth 12.00 The Radio Data system 12.20 Drama about a crooked businessman 12.50 Using correct grammar and 1.20 Postman Pat
2.00 News and weather followed by Words and Pictures (r)
2.15 Sport on Friday. Helen Rollason introduces Racing from Cheltenham. The 2.45, 3.20 and 3.55 races. Plus previews of the weekend's rugby union international between Scotland and Argentina and the second rugby league match between Great Britain and Australia. With News and weather at 3.00 and 4.15
4.20 Holiday Outings. Kathy Taylor samples the delights of Venezuela (r)
4.30 Behind the Headlines. Performer and comedy writer Sandi Toksvig makes her debut as presenter with guests including Gillian McKenzie, who claims she has returned from the dead, and British arm wrestling champion, Keith Morrison. Regular guest Mark Lawson of The Independent comments on the latest crop of ghost movies
5.00 Food and Drink. Weekly magazine for food and drink buffs (r)
5.30 Top Gear (r)
6.00 Film: Five Fingers (1992, b/w). Excellent version of a true story about

one of the most daring espionage agents of the second world war. He was "Oscar", valet to the British Ambassador in Ankara, Turkey, who sold secret Allied documents to the Germans in return for a fortune in what he thought was sterling. Tense and gripping throughout. A fine cast includes James Michael, Danielle Darrieux and Michael Rennie. Directed with élan by Joseph L. Mankiewicz. Wales: Business Matters 6.25 Espana 6.50 A Vous La France 7.15 Wales in Westminster

7.45 What the Papers Say. Barbara Jones of the Mail on Sunday casts her eye over press coverage of the "Tones in turmoil" and the Sky/BBS merger
8.00 Public Eye: Life for Murder - a Punishment Fitting the Crime? Joshua Rosenbaum talks to murderers, the families of victims, and lawyers about how best to make the punishment fit the crime
8.30 The Travel Show Guides. A new series begins with a look at the Greek islands of Mykonos, Paros and Naxos. (Cee-fax)
9.00 Indelible Evidence. Bonfire Night. Ludovic Kennedy introduces another true story of how forensic science helped to nail a criminal, this week in Germany. (Cee-fax)
9.30 Morry Python's Flying Circus. Another dose of classic British comedy (r). (Cee-fax)
10.00 Have I Got News for You? Quiz show based on the week's events hosted by Angus Deayton
10.30 Newsnight with Peter Snow 11.15 Weather
11.20 New West featuring George Strait recorded at a sell-out concert at London's Dominion Theatre



Ingrid Bergman and Gregory Peck (11.50pm)

11.50 Trouble in Mind. Film: Spellbound (1945, b/w).
CHOICE: The most distinguished director to latch on to the Forties Hollywood craze for the psychiatric was Alfred Hitchcock, who came up with this weird piece of Freudiana complete with lots of symbolism and a dream sequence directed by Salvador Dali. Ingrid Bergman, a favourite Hitchcock actress of the time, plays a doctor in a mental asylum who falls in love with her new boss (Gregory Peck), only to discover that he has a dark past and may even be a murderer. The character of Peck playing a killer with a stage in his career, slight but when this implausibility is set aside the film reveals itself as yet another reworking of Hitchcock's recurrent theme of transfer of guilt. Some have suggested that the whole thing is a leg-pull but the evidence from the screen is that Hitchcock was trying to be serious. Spellbound is a highly polished product but notably short on his implicit humour. Ends at 1.45am

ITV LONDON

- 6.00 TV-am
9.25 Keynote. Musical quiz hosted by Alister Dewar 9.55 Thames News and weather
10.00 The Time ... The Place ... John Stapleton chairs a discussion on a topical subject
10.40 This Morning. Features and advice on home and family matters, presented by Judy Finnigan and Richard Madeley. Includes national news at 10.55 and regional news at 11.55 followed by national weather
12.05 Rainbow. Educational entertainment for the young 12.25 Home and Away. Australian soap which follows the fortunes of a couple and their foster children 12.55 Thames News and weather
1.00 News at One with John Suchet. Weather
1.20 Contacts. Television version of the personal column (r) 1.50 A Country Practice. Australian medical drama serial
2.20 Thames Action. Visit Taylor Gee and Jacques King present the consumer magazine 2.50 Talkabout. Andrew O'Connor hosts the fast-talking quick-thinking game show 3.15 News headlines 3.20 Thames News headlines 3.25 The Young Doctors. Medical drama serial set in a large Australian city hospital
3.55 Paddington Bear. Cartoon fun with the bear from darkest Peru 4.25 How 2. Carol Vorderman, Gareth Jones and

Fred Dineage host the programme with the fascinating facts
4.45 Knightmare. The all-girl team retrieves the Shield of Justice and battles its way through to Level Two
5.10 Home and Away (r)
5.40 News with Sue Carpenter. Weather
5.55 The London Programme Special Preview
6.00 6 O'Clock Live. Frank Bough talks to Gulf hostage wife Anne Mansel about the tape made by her husband that was smuggled out of Iraq. Other guests include Gary Glitter and Jeff Sacks
7.00 Family Fortunes. Family quiz show hosted by Les Dennis
7.30 Coronation Street. (Oracle)
8.00 Murder, She Wrote: When the Past Lady Sings. Anecdote sleuthing series starring Angela Lansbury as crime writer Jessica, the week in San Francisco for a writers' convention where she meets an old friend. Together they go to the opera where, backstage after the performance, Jessica meets the star tenor who has been accused of murder. With Keith Michell and Theodore Bikel
9.00 Counting. Blackpool Rock. Lively, if derivative, comedy drama about two brothers who have been forced to move to Blackpool because of villainous pressure in London. They discover a rock band but seem to be losing out on the group's success when a big promoter takes an interest. Starring Peter Howitt and James Purley
10.00 News at Ten with Sandy Gall and Julie Somerville. Weather 10.35 LWT News and weather

CHANNEL 4

- 6.00 The Art of Landscape. Stunning scenes to a soothing soundtrack
6.20 Business Daily
6.30 The Channel Four Daily
9.25 Schools
12.00 The Parliament Programme
12.30 Business Daily presented by Dermot Murphy
1.00 Sesame Street
2.00 The Dogs of the Pole. Will Steiger lives with 80 dogs in the frozen northern states of America. He is currently preparing the animals for a 6,500-kilometre expedition across Antarctica
2.30 Film: Magnificent Obsession (1946, b/w). An unrelenting slice of American history starring George Rogers as a widower who dedicates himself to helping the orphaned child of his late wife. Also played by David Niven. She is also pursued by James Macdon (Burgess Meredith) who goes on to become the fourth president of the United States. A glossy but heavy-going film, directed by Frank Capra
4.15 Grand and Horsey. An enchanting mixture of animation and live action. A young boy's usually dull journey home from school becomes packed full of strange incidents
4.30 Fifteen to One
5.00 Not on Sunday. Includes an investigation into three "near death experiences" and six young men training for the Roman Catholic priesthood discussing the implications of celibacy and vocation
5.30 American Football: Red 42. News and stories from the NFL
6.00 Happy Days. A humorous look at American college life during the carefree Fifties
6.30 Tonight with Jonathan Ross. The guests are Joan Collins and ballet star Michael Clark
7.00 Channel 4 News with Nicholas Owen and Zanna Badawi. Weather



On the small trail: Tony Satchell (10.30pm)

brotherhood Tony Satchell's scenario has an institute for Freedom in industry engaged in an campaign to discredit green organisations by blacklisting their supporters as "subversives". "Oldsmobile sympathisers" and, worst of all, "potential social workers". Among the victims is a motorway promoter, dressed in a snail costume to symbolise his opposition to the motorway project. The film is a comedy of errors, as most of the potential viewers will be out clubbing. For those at home, there are plenty of dance and hip-hop acts from the sweet-filled Brixton Academy
1.00am Film: The Brain from Planet Arous (1958, b/w). Bizarre, low-cost sci-fi thriller starring John Agar and Joyce Meadows begins a new season of the Killer B movies. Two brains, one good and one evil, arrive from outer space and take over the bodies of a nuclear physicist and his pet dog. The two become locked in a power struggle for supremacy. Directed by Nathan Juran. Ends 2.20

ITV VARIATIONS

- ANGLIA
As London except: 1.20pm-1.50pm Yon Can Cook 2.20-2.50 The Champions - Where Are They Now? 7.10-7.40 Children and Dad 8.00 News 8.10-8.40 News and weather 8.50-9.00 Anglia News 10.40 Coss Country 11.40 News 12.20pm-1.00pm Video View 2.00pm-2.30pm The Heart of the Night 3.30pm-4.00pm America's Top Ten 4.00-5.00 American Country Football
BORDER
As London except: 1.20pm-1.50pm A Country Practice 2.20-2.50 The Champions - Where Are They Now? 7.10-7.40 Children and Dad 8.00 News 8.10-8.40 News and weather 8.50-9.00 Border News 10.40 Coss Country 11.40 News 12.20pm-1.00pm Video View 2.00pm-2.30pm The Heart of the Night 3.30pm-4.00pm America's Top Ten 4.00-5.00 American Country Football
CENTRAL
As London except: 1.20pm-1.50pm Video View 2.00pm-2.30pm The Heart of the Night 3.30pm-4.00pm America's Top Ten 4.00-5.00 American Country Football
GRANADA
As London except: 1.20pm-1.50pm A J P

- HTV WEST
As London except: 1.20pm-1.50pm Yon Can Cook 2.20-2.50 The Champions - Where Are They Now? 7.10-7.40 Children and Dad 8.00 News 8.10-8.40 News and weather 8.50-9.00 HTV News 10.40 Coss Country 11.40 News 12.20pm-1.00pm Video View 2.00pm-2.30pm The Heart of the Night 3.30pm-4.00pm America's Top Ten 4.00-5.00 American Country Football
HTV WALES
As HTV West except: 6.00pm Wales at Six 8.00-9.00pm Sportsnight 10.40-11.40pm Eleni
TSW
As London except: 1.20pm-1.50pm The Sweeney 2.20-2.50 The Champions - Where Are They Now? 7.10-7.40 Children and Dad 8.00 News 8.10-8.40 News and weather 8.50-9.00 TSW News 10.40 Coss Country 11.40 News 12.20pm-1.00pm Video View 2.00pm-2.30pm The Heart of the Night 3.30pm-4.00pm America's Top Ten 4.00-5.00 American Country Football

- TYNE TEES
As London except: 1.20pm-1.50pm Yon Can Cook 2.20-2.50 The Champions - Where Are They Now? 7.10-7.40 Children and Dad 8.00 News 8.10-8.40 News and weather 8.50-9.00 Tyne Tees News 10.40 Coss Country 11.40 News 12.20pm-1.00pm Video View 2.00pm-2.30pm The Heart of the Night 3.30pm-4.00pm America's Top Ten 4.00-5.00 American Country Football
YORKSHIRE
As London except: 1.20pm-1.50pm Yon Can Cook 2.20-2.50 The Champions - Where Are They Now? 7.10-7.40 Children and Dad 8.00 News 8.10-8.40 News and weather 8.50-9.00 Yorkshire News 10.40 Coss Country 11.40 News 12.20pm-1.00pm Video View 2.00pm-2.30pm The Heart of the Night 3.30pm-4.00pm America's Top Ten 4.00-5.00 American Country Football

SATELLITE

- SKY ONE
6.00am Sky World News 5.30 International Business Report 6.00 The DJ at 6.45 6.50am Sky News 7.00am Sky News 7.30am Sky News 8.00am Sky News 8.30am Sky News 9.00am Sky News 9.30am Sky News 10.00am Sky News 10.30am Sky News 11.00am Sky News 11.30am Sky News 12.00am Sky News 12.30am Sky News 1.00am Sky News 1.30am Sky News 2.00am Sky News 2.30am Sky News 3.00am Sky News 3.30am Sky News 4.00am Sky News 4.30am Sky News 5.00am Sky News 5.30am Sky News 6.00am Sky News 6.30am Sky News 7.00am Sky News 7.30am Sky News 8.00am Sky News 8.30am Sky News 9.00am Sky News 9.30am Sky News 10.00am Sky News 10.30am Sky News 11.00am Sky News 11.30am Sky News 12.00am Sky News 12.30am Sky News 1.00am Sky News 1.30am Sky News 2.00am Sky News 2.30am Sky News 3.00am Sky News 3.30am Sky News 4.00am Sky News 4.30am Sky News 5.00am Sky News 5.30am Sky News 6.00am Sky News 6.30am Sky News 7.00am Sky News 7.30am Sky News 8.00am Sky News 8.30am Sky News 9.00am Sky News 9.30am Sky News 10.00am Sky News 10.30am Sky 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BUSINESS

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 9 1990

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

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Sterling and shares fall as uncertainty takes toll in markets

By OUR BUSINESS STAFF

THE pound fell suddenly at the end of the trading day in London, losing the ground it had gained immediately after the gloomy forecasts of the autumn statement reached the market.

Though the economic outlook that John Major, the Chancellor, painted was largely expected in the financial markets, sterling, already below its central rate in the exchange-rate mechanism of the European Monetary System, experienced sudden weakness in the last 30 minutes.

Dealers were looking for possible Bank of England intervention to prop up sterling, amid continued uncertainty over a possible challenge to Mrs Thatcher's leadership, and with by-election

results expected to add a further knock to sentiment for the currency.

By the close, the pound had shed half a pence to DM2.9238 and was a full cent lower against the dollar at \$1.9665. But on its trade-weighted index, which finishes an hour earlier, the pound ended 0.1 higher at 94.4, below the day's high of 94.6.

The dollar, which has been plumbing record depths against the mark, managed to make a little ground against the currency, closing at DM1.4850, but a whole pence below its best for the day.

In the stock market, the growing threat of war in the Middle East overshadowed anything the Chancellor had to say to the City. Share prices suffered sharp falls as the war of words deepened and the price of crude oil rose sharply on the world

market. Overnight falls in both New York and Tokyo set the pace for London with market-makers going on the defensive. The equity market spent most of the day shadowing the future where the FT-SE 100 index December series saw its premium steadily whittled away.

On the cash market, traders reported sporadic selling, depressed by another dull start to trading on Wall Street and leaving the FT-SE 100 index down at 2,036.2. The FT 30 index also shed 15.9 to 1,574.9 as turnover grew to 423 million shares.

The biggest falls were seen in international stocks, with Reuters down 28p at 588p and Glaxo 10p at 763p.

Investors have been pinning their hopes all week on a further cut in bank base rates, possibly of half a percentage

point, but there were few signs of optimism from the Chancellor. As a result, government securities were left nursing falls of as much as 1/2 at the longer end.

British industry cautiously approved the Chancellor's statement, though with reservations about some spending plans and with some hopes of further easing of interest rate pressure on companies.

Trade unions said the statement confirmed that Britain was now in recession.

In general, Mr Major's efforts to contain the pressure for higher public spending were welcomed, with a clear acknowledgement by industry leaders of the difficult economic circumstances against which his statement had to be made.

The Confederation of British Industry

welcomed the Chancellor's recognition of the "serious downturn" in the economy, and his forecast of lower inflation: "Both these point the way to lower interest rates and we hope a further reduction will be achieved this year."

Even though public spending overall is up, CBI leaders praised Mr Major's efforts to contain it. Peter Morgan, director-general of the Institute of Directors, also welcomed Mr Major's "responsible economic prediction" given the uncertainty of the Gulf and the "worldwide tendency towards recession".

The IoD was critical of the continued support for local government spending and the level of the uniform business rate, and insisted that if Mr Major was serious about reducing inflation, he should set all such indexed

figures below the prevailing rate of price inflation.

Norman Willis, general secretary of the TUC, attacked Mr Major's estimates on spending and inflation, and said there was nothing in the statement which would prevent unemployment rising. Construction industry leaders found little comfort in the planned spending on roads and other infrastructure, arguing that the figures for 1991-92 still pointed to a year-on-year reduction in real terms. However, there were differences between construction employers about whether the real impact of the government's proposals would greatly affect transport capital expenditure, and so construction.

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Stock market, page 26

STC agrees £1.9bn bid by Canadians

By MARTIN WALLER

STC, the British telecommunications group, has agreed a £1.9 billion takeover offer from Northern Telecom of Canada, its largest shareholder, in what is claimed to be the sixth biggest British corporate deal ever announced.

The merger creates the world's third biggest telecom business, behind AT&T of America and Alcatel, the American/French joint business incorporated in The Netherlands, according to Paul Stern, Northern Telecom's chairman and chief executive.

"This is not an overnight event," Mr Stern said. His company's shareholding in STC, of 27.1 per cent, was acquired in 1987, but the eventual approach was made after STC's decision to sell 80 per cent of ICL, its computer business, to Fujitsu, the Japanese group, in July.

The Canadian group is making a 327p offer, made up of 317p cash and a second interim dividend of 10p, to be funded out of increased borrowings, although North-

ern Telecom will have the advantage of £700 million in cash receivable from Fujitsu once that deal is complete. The offer depends on the ICL deal going through on November 30. There will be a loan note alternative.

STC's shares jumped 21 1/2p to 312 1/2p on news of the offer. The deal has the support of its two biggest customers, British Telecom and Cable and Wireless, owner of the Mercury telephone network.

Mr Stern said: "The negotiations weren't easy, but tough." Asked if it was a cheap deal for Northern Telecom, he replied: "There's no such thing."

Arthur Walsh, STC's chairman, said he believed the continued existence of his company had depended on its finding a large enough partner to survive in the telecommunications market of the 1990s. "There's no doubt now that STC will be here in 20 years' time. I think some of you could have doubted that a few months ago."

STC said last month it was in talks that could lead to a bid. Mr Walsh said various options remained open despite the Northern Telecom offer, including joint ventures. "We have a weakness in Europe we intend to put right."

Alcatel had suggested it might try to take over STC, and the market had been regarding it as the most likely bidder. A spokeswoman in Paris said the group was still interested in STC, but further involvement would depend on price and any arrangement with STC being a friendly one. "We've no concrete projects to disclose with STC, but

we're still interested in following the situation," she said.

Analysis regarded the price being paid as fair. STC yesterday gave warning that its second-half earnings would be hit by "continuing difficult trading conditions, caused both by the economic environment and uncertainty over STC's future ownership," along with the dilutive effects already announced of the ICL sale.

Charles Burrows, a telecoms analyst at James Capel, the broker, said the deal was in the interests of shareholders and the company. Patrick Wellington at County NatWest thought the cash offer was "a better price than they would have got for it next year," given the economic slowdown.

On the basis of revised figures for STC for the year to end-January, the cash offer represents a prospective exit multiple of about 16.5, although that reduces to about 12 if the cash proceeds of the ICL disposal are taken into account, according to estimates by Northern Telecom.

Asked if he thought potential European partners might be put off by STC's purchase by a North American group, Mr Stern said: "The competition in our industry has really transcended borders."

STC had planned to retain its 20 per cent stake in ICL pending an eventual stock market flotation for the computer company. Mr Stern said he had no plans to change that strategy. There were no areas of overlap between the two companies and no redundancies planned.



No crossed lines: Arthur Walsh, of STC, (left) and Paul Stern, of Northern Telecom, in accord over the £1.9 billion all-cash offer

Shell and BP profits up on Gulf tension

By MARTIN BARROW

ROYAL Dutch Shell and BP, two of the biggest oil companies, have disclosed substantial increases in net profits for the third quarter of 1990, during which crude prices rose sharply after Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. They said that profits calculated on a replacement cost basis, which strip out changes in the value of oil stocks, were lower than during the third quarter of 1989.

BP reported third-quarter net income up from £211 million to £822 million. In the first nine months of the year net income was £1.22 billion, (£1.30 billion). On a replacement cost basis, profits fell from £264 million to £103 million in the third quarter. Earnings for the nine months were 22.8p (23.5p) a share. The quarterly dividend is up from 3.65p a share to 3.95p.

Shell increased third-quarter net income from £652 million to £1.09 billion. Over nine months net income fell from £2.94 billion to £2.47 billion. Replacement cost earnings fell from £667 million to £480 million over three months and to £2.05 billion over nine months. Losses this year are £111 million.

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WTA offers £493m in merger

By JOHN BELL
CITY EDITOR

WIGGINS Teape Appleton is offering shares worth £493 million to acquire the assets of Arjomari-Prix, the French company, in a merger that will create one of Europe's most powerful paper making and merchanting groups.

The deal leaves Arjomari with 39 per cent of WTA's enlarged equity, but the Take-over Panel has agreed to waive its requirement for a full-scale bid from Arjomari, providing WTA shareholders agree the terms of the transaction.

Stephen Walls, WTA's chairman and chief executive, said the link was "a marriage made in heaven" and would serve as a model for future trans-European mergers.

A full bid for Arjomari was "unaffordable" by WTA and might have cost the group more than £1 billion. The financial performance of the combined group would be superior to that which WTA could expect on its own, Mr Walls added.

Pierre Dufournier, president directeur général of Arjomari, said the merger would establish a group with clearly focused activities and major positions in its main markets.

WTA shares were suspended on Wednesday pending details of the proposals. They fell 4 1/2p to 158.5p when trading resumed yesterday, but were well received by analysts.

Tony Pennie, of James Capel, said shareholders would see the benefits to be gained from the larger scale operations of the combined groups. He anticipated that WTA earnings per share would be enhanced marginally in the first year and that substantial gains might accrue thereafter.

Mr Walls said a number of the strategic and economic benefits would come through in the short term and should establish the basis for a big enhancement in shareholder value.

On a pro forma basis, the combined group will have net assets of £1 billion and pre-tax profits of £262 million. The £493 million payment in

shares represents a hefty premium to Arjomari's adjusted net assets of £353 million. The shareholders of the French group will receive 39 per cent of the combined equity in exchange for 37 per cent of pro forma net profits and 35 per cent of net assets.

Under a standstill arrangement, Arjomari and St Louis, its 45 per cent shareholder, cannot increase their holding in WTA beyond 40 per cent for 12 months. Thereafter, a bid is possible provided that Arjomari gains a further 20 per cent of WTA.

The merger is subject to approval by shareholders of both groups and is expected to be completed by January 1.

Mr Walls said he expected that the deal would be looked at by EC competition authorities, but was confident that it would be approved.

On completion, Mr Walls will become group chief executive and M Dufournier deputy chief executive, while Cob Stenham, former Unilever finance director and head of Bankers Trust's European operations, will become non-executive chairman.

Arjomari's ultimate holding company, Worms et Compagnie, the investment group, supports the deal and has said it will regard its interest as a long-term holding.

Tempus, page 24

THE POUND

US dollar 1.9665 (-0.0100)
German mark 2.9238 (-0.0064)
Exchange index 94.4 (+0.1)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share 1574.9 (-15.9)
FT-SE 100 2036.2 (-23.0)
New York Dow Jones 2442.57 (+1.73)
Tokyo Nikkei Ave 22969.81 (-530.44)
Closing Prices ... Page 29

Major indices and major changes Page 26

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base 14%
3-month Interbank 13 1/2-14 1/2%
3-month Treasury bills 13 1/2-14 1/2%
US: Prime Rate 10%
Federal Funds 7 1/2-8 1/4%
3-month Treasury Note 7.09-7.08%
30-year bonds 10 1/2-10 3/4%

CURRENCIES

London: New York
£/\$ 1.9665
£/DM 2.9238
£/Sfr 2.4652
£/FF 9.8227
£/Yen 125.00
£/Ind 8.5
ECU 10.7025
ECU 1.43482

GOLD

London: Fixing
AU \$385.50 pm-384.75
Close \$385.75-385.25 (196.75-197.25)
New York: Corn \$385.80-386.30

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Dec) \$34.00bbl (\$34.75)
Denotes latest trading price

TOURIST RATES

Australia \$ 2.20
Austria Sch 2.60
Belgium F 2.30
Canada C 2.25
Denmark Kr 11.72
France F 6.55
Germany DM 3.05
Greece Dr 318.00
Hong Kong \$ 15.80
Ireland P 2.20
Italy L 1.95
Japan Yen 266.50
Netherlands Gld 1.94
Norway Kr 11.72
Portugal Esc 262.75
Spain Ptas 166.64
South Africa R 191.00
Sweden Kr 11.39
Switzerland F 2.60
Turkey Lira 5.70
USA \$ 2.045
Yugoslavia Din 20.00

Prices for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.
Retail Price Index: 129.3 (September)

BT cuts costs to lift profit 16.7%

By GRAHAM SEARJEANT, FINANCIAL EDITOR

BRITISH Telecom has seen a marked slowdown in the growth of calls and installations in the past quarter, but has kept profits rising by cutting costs.

In the half year to end-September, pre-tax profits rose 16.7 per cent to £1.53 billion from a turnover 8.8 per cent higher at £6.48 billion. The rate of growth in profits, which included a £40 million property profit, was maintained in the second quarter, although turnover growth fell slightly to 8 per cent.

Growth in the volume of domestic calls ran at 7 per cent in the half year, but the growth rate virtually halved in the second quarter. Small businesses were worst affected.

Costs were controlled by cutting BT's staff in Britain by

6,500 and reducing overtime. But Iain Vallance, the chairman, said quality of service was at an all-time high.

The interim dividend has been raised 12.9 per cent to 5.25p per share from earnings up 16.4 per cent to 16.5p.

Mr Vallance said BT would prefer the government to make an early sale of its remaining 48 per cent stake in one or more tranches. This was because the group wanted to complete its move into the private sector and not for fear of any future Labour government.

"I do not think this would make much difference because the main control is through regulation rather than ownership," he added.

Comment, page 25

Storehouse plummets

CONSUMER confidence has fallen further because of renewed fears over the Gulf and reports of an industrial recession, says Michael Julien, the chief executive of Storehouse, (Gillian Bowditch writes).

Storehouse's pre-tax profits for the six months to September 15 were £3.8 million, down from £8.7 million. Earn-

ings per share fell from 1.7p to 0.6p. Dividend is being maintained at 2.5p. The shares fell 9p to 123p. John Richards, an analyst with County NatWest, said retail sales next month could fall by one per cent from December 1989 giving retailers a difficult Christmas.

Tempus, page 24

Jason Davies seeks to clear name

By MARTIN WALLER

JASON Davies, the broker at the centre of the Polly Peck affair, has offered to talk to the Serious Fraud Office and the company's joint administrator in Geneva this month, in an attempt to clear his name.

Rodney Hynton-Potts, his solicitor in London, said Mr Davies was not guilty of any offence under Swiss or British law. "He doesn't know any more than Asil Nadir [Polly Peck's chairman] knows about the Serious Fraud Office are on what. He's got nothing to hide and nothing to fear, and he wants his name cleared. I believe the SFO are going to take up the offer."

Mr Hynton-Potts said he will fly to Geneva to arrange a meeting between the police, Touche Ross, the joint administrators, and Mr Davies, who runs Nadir Investments, the Swiss company that administers the personal finances of

Mr Nadir and his family. Mr Davies had asked the procurer general in Geneva, the equivalent of the attorney-general, to mount an investigation "to clear his name, because he's had some very bad press in Switzerland as well," said Mr Hynton-Potts.

Mr Davies was "very upset" by suggestions in the press that he was in hiding. He had, therefore, written to Christopher Morris, of Touche Ross, and the fraud office, saying he would be happy to meet them if they were prepared to visit him in Switzerland.

Meanwhile, Richard Stone, joint administrator of Polly Peck, flew to northern Cyprus yesterday for a fact-finding mission that is likely to concentrate on the various bank balances claimed to contain Polly Peck funds.

Mr Stone, head of corporate finance at Coopers & Lybrand Deloitte, was not accompanied by Mr Nadir. Sources

close to the administrators suggested Mr Nadir had been unable to arrange his diary to allow him to make the trip. A spokesman for Mr Nadir said the Polly Peck chairman was expected in northern Cyprus at the weekend.

The administrators are believed to be unconvinced by apparent assurances from the banks of northern Cyprus that the Polly Peck money involved, £100 million in sterling balances and \$40 million in dollars, is actually there.

In a separate development, Michael Jordan, senior partner at Cork Gully, Coopers' insolvency offshoot, and Mr Morris will today visit the trade department for what are described as "preliminary discussions" on Polly Peck.

Mr Nadir wants the DTI to investigate the affair, but both Touche Ross and the police are thought to be opposed to such action. Coopers, however, has apparently yet to make up its mind.

FOREIGN CURRENCY MORTGAGES ? ...erm... IS NOT THE ONLY ANSWER.

Sterling's membership of the ERM is good news for anyone with a mortgage. And it's particularly good news for those who borrow in foreign currencies. Sterling should now be a more stable currency, arguably with a reduced risk of excessive exchange rate movements against other member currencies.

But foreign currency mortgages are more sophisticated than many so called 'experts' let on. Which is, perhaps, why so many become hesitant when questioned on the pro's and con's.

With our colleagues at currency specialists The ECU Group, we have succeeded in keeping our customers' interest rates on average below 9% whilst reducing their outstanding mortgage debt over the last two difficult years by some 16%.

Success like this is the fruit of many years' experience and specialist skill. Expertise that can weigh ERM entry in the context of the broader forces at play in the currency markets long term.

So if you wish to learn more about the facts on foreign currency mortgages, as well as the pro's and con's of each of our significantly differing products, call 071 839 5799 for written details. And talk to the company that's been quietly No.1 in Foreign Currency loans for years.

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BUSINESS ROUNDUP

National Home Loans falls as arrears soar

NATIONAL Home Loans, the centralised mortgage lender, reported a fall in pre-tax profits in the year to September 30 from £33.6 million to £30.2 million. The figures included "a considerable increase" in provisions for debts, but Kevin Milner, the chief executive, would not reveal the amount or the exact increase.

The lender, which operates mainly in the South-East, has seen a 60 per cent increase in arrears during the year, most of which it said were dealt with sympathetically. NHL has been developing its corporate and consumer finance businesses and expects them to play an increasingly important part. The final dividend is 5.25p (4.74p), making a total of 9p, up 1p.

Burmah posts Foseco offer

BURMAH Castrol has posted the formal offer document for its 275p a share offer for Foseco, the chemicals group. It estimates that the value of Foseco shareholders' investments have fallen 39 per cent in real terms over 10 years and by 32 per cent over five years. Burmah shares fell 17p to 443p.

NI limits to rise in April

THE lower earnings limit for national insurance, the level at which contributions begin, will be raised from £46 a week to £52 in April. The contributions ceiling will increase from £350 a week to £390. The main employers' contribution rate will fall from 10.45 per cent to 10.4 per cent.

SmithKline advances

SMITHKLINE Beecham, the pharmaceuticals group, reports pre-tax profits of £218 million (£168 million) for its third quarter to end-September, in spite of a 3 per cent dip in turnover to £1.08 billion. Profits for the nine months to date are £634 million (£588 million). Earnings per share lift the nine-month figure to 30p (29.6p).

Appleby lifts profits 15%

SHAREHOLDERS at Appleby Westward Group, the grocery wholesaler, will receive an interim dividend payment of 3p (2.5p) after another profits increase. Pre-tax profits advanced 15 per cent to £19 million in the 28 weeks to September 7. Earnings per share climbed from 11.9p to 13.8p.

Lloyd's fund to double

LLOYD'S, the insurance market, proposes to double the size of its Central Fund from £365 million to £1 billion by the mid-1990s. It will be funded by an increase in members' contributions from 0.35 to 0.6 per cent of underwriting capacity, but they will face no overall increase.

Receivers called in to Leading Leisure

By STEPHEN LEATHER

ADMINISTRATIVE receivers have been appointed at Leading Leisure, the Third Market-quoted leisure and property group.

Last week shares were suspended at 2p, giving the company a market value of £1.3 million, compared with last year's high of 96p. Price Waterhouse is reviewing the assets of the business with a view to selling them as going concerns.

In September Leading Leisure's directors said that they were approaching a selected list of parties with a view to their taking some form of participation in the group, "which might include the possibility of a full offer".

In July, Barry Malizia, chairman and chief executive, told the annual meeting: "Confidence needs to be restored with our bankers and creditors". At that time it had debts of £266 million and was losing £140 per cent with the company reporting pre-tax profits for the 14 months to the end of December 1989 of £6.73 million, up from £5.15 million in the year to October 31, 1988. The dividend was passed.

Leading Leisure employs 400 staff and owns the recently-opened Centrepoint hotel at Basingstoke, the Norfolk Royale at Bournemouth, Portland Heights, Portland, Cliftops Hotel on the Isle of Wight, and Seolant Manor in North Wales. It owns two theme parks in Cornwall and a "medieval centre" in Winchester.

Yale share price suffers as profits slide 21%

By PHILIP PANGALOS

SHARES in Yale and Valor, the international security and home products group, fell 34p to 158p after the group suffered a 21.6 per cent decline in interim profits.

Pre-tax profits fell from £25.9 million to £20.3 million in the half year to September 28, which was substantially below market expectations. Turnover slipped from £203.9 million to £179.6 million.

The company blamed the decline on the strength of sterling against the dollar and the trading downturn in America, which accounts for two-thirds of the group's business, plus the impact of events in the Gulf.

Michael Montague, the chairman, said: "Middle East business virtually dried up in mid-August and is showing no signs of a recovery."

He said modest sales to Nigeria, Iran and Venezuela, which have benefited from higher oil prices, have not compensated for the absence of orders from Egypt, Jordan, Turkey, Iraq and Kuwait.

He added: "Kuwait is our largest market for water heaters, and even our Saudi Arabian business, previously an important market, is subdued and uncertain." American business was hampered by "the severe downturn" in

Stanhope net assets up to 275p a share

By MARTIN BARROW

STANHOPE Properties, the USM-quoted company controlled by Stuart Lipton but one-third owned by Olympia and York, the Canadian developer, increased net assets to 275.6p a share, against 207.6p in the year to end-June.

The company is engaged in big developments in central London, including Broadgate in the City, and made pre-tax profits of £15.03 million (£15.58 million).

There was an operating loss of £6.03 million, against a surplus of £360,000, but the shortfall was made good with a £5.56 million rise in interest receivable to £22.01 million. Earnings declined from 6.63p a share to 4.94p, reflecting a higher tax charge.

Stanhope's intention is to build up assets so it has a restrictive dividend policy and is paying an unchanged dividend of 0.1p a share for the year. Mr Lipton, chief executive, said that less than 20p of the 68p increase in net asset value was attributable to the inclusion, for the first time, of phases seven and 11 of the Broadgate development.

The balance related to projects not associated with the Rosehaugh Stanhope Developments joint venture, including developments in Grays Inn Road and Red Lion Square in central London and Stockley Park in Staines, Middlesex.

Some 2.7 million sq ft of the Broadgate development has been let to clients including Herbert Smith and Foreign & Colonial.

TEMPUS

Gazing into a murky barrel at BP and Shell

A MEANINGFUL reading of results from BP and Shell while oil prices are so volatile is not easy. Third-quarter figures will attract accusations of profiteering from a sensitive public, but over the year so far neither company has a great deal to feel too pleased about.

The full benefit of higher oil prices will not be felt until the fourth quarter, assuming that prices do not continue to fluctuate as wildly as they have since August. And that is by no means certain.

Although Shell has arguably achieved a better balance between upstream and downstream, BP is better placed to benefit from short, sharp spikes in oil prices.

Thus, during the third quarter, BP increased historic cost profits from £211 million to £322 million, although year-on-year profits remain £77 million lower at £1.22 billion. Replacement cost profits, which strip out stockholding profits, fell from £264 million to £103 million, and for the nine months from £1.02 billion to £748 million, reflecting sharply lower chemicals margins and a higher taxation charge.

Shell's historic cost profit increased from £652 million to £1.09 billion but remains £466 million adrift over the nine months. Replacement cost profits fell from £667 million to £480 million in the third quarter and from £2.69 billion to £2.05 billion over nine months.

Replacement cost figures illustrate the delay that exists in passing higher crude costs on to consumers. Third-quarter results are based on an average price of \$26.40 a barrel, against \$17.30, which is still well below current prices of about \$34.

These mixed results should be seen as a period of adjustment, not as a guide to performance when oil prices are rising. Higher crude prices will eventually produce cashflow benefits which should be reflected in higher dividends and enhanced growth in earnings.

The outlook for earnings, Gearing is a healthy 5.7 per cent and the group should be cash positive before too long. Forecasts have been reduced with Goldman Sachs coming down from £42 million to £35 million for the full-year and from £70 million to £50 million next year.

In common with many other groups, trading is tough and Christmas will be crucial for BHS. The shares, down 9p to 123p, are trading on over 15 times earnings and are fully-rated.

Neat solution for Wiggins

THE key problem for Stephen Walls, chairman of Wiggins Teape Appleton, was always that of pushing earnings along a growth path while the paper and pulp cycle was trending downwards. His neat solution brings a substantial expansion of WTA's operating base and profit potential. But it avoids massive dilution arising from a full-scale equity-financed bid and hugely higher interest charges from a cash offer.

The complex swap of assets and shares with Arjomari was designed to be non-dilutive, but in year one it is likely to result in a small addition to WTA earnings. Thereafter, the benefits from merging two of Europe's strongest players in the high-added-value segments of the paper market are considerable.

In WTA's case, the price to be paid is the acceptance of a 40 per cent shareholder with powerful continental financial backers. This cuts both ways. The standstill agreement between WTA

and Arjomari means there should be little by way of bid premium in the shares during the first year. Thereafter, Arjomari or its shareholders will be able to bid subject to some limitations. But the chances of a third-party bid will be limited by the size of Arjomari's interest.

Institutions must decide between the enhanced growth prospects versus reduced chances of a bid and would be wise to favour the former. Analysts believe that the combined group could produce earnings 10 per cent higher next year and that economies of scale, integration of manufacturing and merchandising operations and sheer buying power should enhance growth over the next five years.

Meanwhile, though no predator has made itself felt since WTA demerged from BAT last June, there is a window of opportunity before the Arjomari links are finally sealed. If a bidder is out there somewhere, he will doubtless appear soon.

GPA sees airlines recession

THE airline industry will face a recession for up to two years because of the Gulf conflict, reducing growth prospects for the decade, Maurice Foley, vice-chairman and president of GPA Group, predicts.

GPA, the world's biggest aircraft leasing group, is cutting its long-term assumptions of growth in the number of airline passengers from 64 per cent a year to between 54 and 6 per cent and now suggests about 7,000 new aircraft may be needed by the end of the century, rather than its earlier forecast of 7,600.

GPA, which is based in Ireland but accounts in dollars, raised after-tax profits by 22 per cent to \$140 million in the half year to end-September from a 17 per cent increase in revenue to \$965 million.

Bellway falls

Pre-tax profits at Bellway, the housebuilder, fell to £11.1 million in the year to end-July, from £17 million last time. The total dividend is held at 11p, with a final of 7p.

Qantas sale

The Australian government is to allow foreign investors to buy up to 40 per cent of Australian Airlines, its domestic carrier, and 35 per cent of Qantas, its international airline.

Premier ahead

Premier Group, the South African diversified food and consumer products group, lifted taxable profits 21 per cent to £121.2 million in the six months to end-September. The interim dividend rises to 84 cents (72 cents).

Talks ended

Shares in CountyGlen, the Dublin property and investment group, fell 5p to 63p after the company said talks that may have led to its restructuring have ended.

High-flying Canary



Michael Portillo, junior environment minister, signs a pyramid, capping London Docklands' Canary Wharf tower, at yesterday's topping-out

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Negative in the positive

TONY Mackintosh, the former Wood Mackenzie partner who joined Laing & Crutchfield as head of research and marketing in January, resigned abruptly last week. Mackintosh, aged 47, who will now use his time to work on his golf handicap of 19, quit after the management changes at L&C which followed Russell Leiman's promotion from chief executive of institutional equities to an international role. Since October, Leiman has been partially based in Paris, with L&C now owned by Credit Lyonnais, the French bank. It is understood that Mackintosh had aspirations to become Leiman's successor in Britain, but that position went instead to Michael Kerr-Dineen, who had turned around L&C's investment management division from a £6 million loss to profitability during his 15 months with the firm. "It was all totally amicable, there were

no clashes or rows," says Kerr-Dineen. "He wrote a very sweet letter saying that he thought the recent management changes were very positive for the firm, but not very positive for him." A new head of research has not yet been appointed. "We are still thinking about how we want to structure it," Kerr-Dineen adds.

Lukie remembered

The late Lord Annaly, who began his City career as plain Luke White and became a partner of W Greenwell — later bought by Midland Bank — will be remembered by his City friends at a memorial service at St Clement Dunes, the Strand, on November 28 at noon. The church has been traditionally used by the Royal Air Force and has been chosen because of Annaly's long association with the RAF. He was a flying officer in 601 Squadron, Sir Hugh Dundas, a fellow RAF officer and one of "Lukie's" closest friends who is also a former chairman of BET and Thames

Television, will read the lesson. Several leading members of the British deaf community will also attend in recognition of the Anastasia Trust, the charity founded by Annaly and his wife Beverly, whose daughter and step-daughter were deaf. The trust helps young deaf people to live independent lives. In aid of that trust, City Diary readers are exclusively invited to attend a tasting of Krug champagnes at the Brewers Hall.

Aldermanbury Square, on December 7. Hosted by Henri Krug, one of the two brothers who run Krug, the tutored tasting will include the 1969 vintage, which retails at £175 a bottle, and the rare Clos du Mesnil 1982, which would set you back £150 a bottle. Numbers are restricted so there will be two sessions, at noon and 5 pm. The charge is £25 a head, with all money to be donated to the trust. Contact David Russell on 071-834-2151.

Townsend to City

EDWARD Townsend, a former industrial correspondent of The Times, has finally succumbed to the siren call of the City. Townsend ended a 14-year career at the newspaper when he resigned in 1988 to become chief press officer for BAA. From the start of next month, he will be the chief press officer at National Westminster Bank, a post previously filled by Colin Williams. Last January, Williams was promoted to head of corporate communications for the group and has been search-

ing for the right person to take over his old job for the past ten months.

Catto closes book

AFTER 19 years as chairman of the British branch board of the Australian Mutual Provident Society, and almost 30 years as one of its directors, Lord Catto is to retire. Catto, aged 67, and perhaps best known for having been chief executive, chairman and, now, president of Morgan Grenfell, the merchant bank, is also retiring as chairman of AMP. Catto will be succeeded by John Sadler at AMP, and Eric Lyall at Pearl. "I am trying to do rather less," says Catto, even though he is retaining a number of directorships, including that at News International, owner of The Times, and the chairmanship of Yule Catto. "I live in the country now, in Gloucestershire, and London sometimes seems quite a long way away."

CAROL LEONARD

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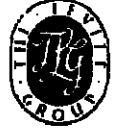
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Major minus the hint of a smile

COMMENT

DAVID BREWERTON

Not a twitch of a smile crossed John Major's face as his peroration, as dull in delivery as it was in content, moved on to the economic forecast, the first, he reminded the House, since we joined the exchange rate mechanism. He could have grinned at the thought of market-makers pointlessly gathered around their television screens hanging on his every word. He could have managed a smile as he mentally compared previous forecasts, especially of inflation, with the figures that finally emerged. He could have sniggered to himself at the letter from Lord Hanson in yesterday's *The Times* which showed the Confederation of British Industry to be as divided as the government which it criticises. (Lord Hanson maintained that John Banham, director general of the CBI, did not represent the views of his senior industry members when calling on the government to get its act together).

But in fact, a recession is no laughing matter and that is what his forecasts spelled out. If it is lucky, industry is faced with a

deep "V" formation on the output charts. We are already rattling down the left hand side of the slope but unlike the chancellor, few in industry can see the bottom. On Honest John's reckoning, the bottom will come "in the early part" of next year and by the final quarter we shall be showing 2 per cent gdp growth, but against a weak final quarter of 1990. His forecast of a mere 0.5 per cent year on year gdp growth is a miserable but probably realistic assessment, and caused not a ripple in the stock market.

Forecasts of inflation, however, are another matter altogether and even as Mr Major was writing 5.5 per cent into the final quarter score sheet for next year, the boys on the production lines at Rover and Jaguar were helping themselves to inflation-plus wage settlements for this year and next. It appears that the chancellor's Mansion House speech about lost jobs and long

dole queues did not reach the saloon bars of Coventry, and even the downturn in car sales has done nothing to put a brake on wage settlements.

No wonder the chancellor was in serious mood.

BT's virtues

British Telecom's much criticised fall is being converted into profitable energy at just the right time. Growth in the volume of calls and new installations is slowing rapidly as the recession bites, especially on small business. But profit growth is not suffering because costs are being trimmed faster.

The number of UK staff, for

instance, is well on the way to falling 10,000, or 4.3 per cent for the full year. Overtime is down. While income rose by only 8.8 per cent in the half year to end September, and 8 per cent in the latest quarter, operating costs rose by 6.8 per cent for the half year and slightly less in the second quarter.

Despite the sharp slowdown in business, analysts have felt no need to downgrade their forecasts of about £3 billion pre-tax profits for the year to March. That is a rise of 11 per cent with earnings per share not far behind. Since reorganisation benefits should come through more strongly next year, continuing growth looks assured.

No-one would guess that from

the rating of BT shares, at 257p, they sell at about 8 times likely earnings, a discount of 13 per cent on the market average, and yield an above average 6.9 per cent on the likely full year dividend. That seems to take far more account of supposed political risk than BT's solid virtues. As County Natwest's Patrick Wellington observes "BT is one of the great underrated UK earners".

All sewn up

However loud the various parties may deny it, the STC takeover by the Canadian Northern Telecom looks like a shut-out, or at least a cosy conference call. Already squared are the two biggest customers, BT and Cable and Wireless, after back-door negotiations with their respective chairmen. Also giving its blessing is Fujitsu of Japan, which has

agreed to buy 80 per cent of ICL, STC's computer business, by November 30, and which is in a commanding position to make life difficult for any rival purchaser.

Northern Telecom starts off with the advantage of a 27.1 per cent holding and the STC board's blessing. It is a tribute to its powers of bluff that the market had half-expected the eventual approach to come from Alcatel.

To judge from the confused remarks that were coming out of Alcatel yesterday, it too was somewhat floored by the suddenness of Northern Telecom's move. There looks to be little it can do at this stage, although joint ventures to allow STC greater penetration into Europe look a possibility.

The advantages of the deal to STC are clear, not least in the admission by its chairman, Arthur Walsh, that its continued survival depends on some such link-up. He is right to decry "macho management" which stays independent against all the odds. In accepting the Northern Telecom terms he has only taken his own advice.

IF JOHN Major manages to deliver on the promises and forecasts he announced yesterday in the autumn statement, he will go down in history as one of the most successful Chancellors of the post-war era. For all of yesterday's projections, estimates and forecasts can be boiled down to one simple but grandiose proposition. If the year ahead goes more or less as the Treasury has predicted, then Mr Major will be able to claim with greater plausibility than either of his predecessors that a decade of Thatcherism has truly transformed Britain's economic and political systems.

For what the Treasury has forecast for the 18 months ahead is a set of economic circumstances unprecedented in Britain. The recession which has already officially begun is expected not only to be both brief and shallow but also to give way to a strong recovery with no help either from the exchange rate or from an expansionary fiscal stance. On the political side, the government's plans allow for no increase in public expenditure relative to gross national product in the year ahead, an achievement that would stand in sharp contrast to the experience of every significant recession in the past.

The Treasury's economic forecasts can be summarised as follows. A mild recession has already begun. Gross domestic product, which probably started falling sometime in the summer, and has continued to decline during the last few months. The economic downturn will continue into the early part of next year, but in the spring improvement will be in sight.

Stimulated by a fall in interest rates as well as by the reversal of the natural cyclical forces of investment and stockbuilding, demand will start to recover significantly next summer, and by the end of the year the economy will again be growing strongly. But, as the forecast tables show, the new cycle of growth which will begin in the second half of 1991 will be built on a more solid foundation of reduced inflation and an improved balance of payments performance.

If all went according to plan, inflation would be down to 5½ per cent by the end of next year and the current account deficit would have been roughly halved to £11 billion. Investment would naturally have suffered as a result of the recession, but not too seriously, while unemployment, which is not officially forecast, would not rise above the 2 million mark. The two years of falling investment projected by the Treasury in its tables would not even reverse the gains made in an average year during the 1983-89 boom, while joblessness would not rise too abruptly because of the brief duration of the recession by forecast. From a political standpoint, economic conditions might already be improving sufficiently by the summer of next year to make a general election possible.

But how likely is such a benign forecast to be realised? Recent experience suggests scepticism, since the past two recessions have been longer and more painful affairs. In the 1980-81 recession, GDP started to fall in the first quarter of 1980 and the recovery began in the second quarter of 1981. The fall in GDP from peak to trough was 4.6 per cent. In the previous recession, GDP hit a peak in the third quarter of 1973 and did not start rising steadily until two years later. Looking further back on the other hand, brief shallow recessions were the rule rather than the exception in the 1950s and 1960s and the kind of performance the Treasury is now forecasting would not have raised any eyebrows among economists in those golden decades.

The same could be true this time round, judging by most of the forecasts published by private economists at present. Very few private economists currently predict a recession either longer or deeper than the one suggested by the Treasury. In fact, yesterday's official forecasts are probably at the pessimistic end of the current consensus among private economists and this gives

Solid grounds for scepticism on Major's high hopes

TREASURY'S ECONOMIC FORECASTS

	1989	1990	1991
Gross domestic product	2	1	%
GDP (domestic demand at constant prices)	3	%	%
Domestic demand of which:			
Consumers' expenditure	3%	2%	1%
General government consumption	4%	1%	1%
Change in stockbuilding (as % of GDP)	-4%	-1%	-1%
Export of goods and services	4%	4%	2%
Imports of goods and services	7	2%	1%
Non-North Sea GDP	3%	7	1%
Manufacturing output	4%	0	-1%
Current account (£ billion)	-19	-15%	-11
Inflation	7%	10%	5%
Retail prices index	7%	10%	5%
GDP deflator at market prices (fin yr)	5%	8%	8%
Money GDP at market prices (financial yr)	514	558	604
£ billion			
Public sector debt payment	8	3-	
£ billion			
% of GDP	1%	%	%

% changes on previous year unless otherwise stated

A BRIEF RECESSION

	1st	2nd	1st	2nd
GDP	+2.4	-2.4	0	+4.3
Consumption	+3.6	+0.8	+2.0	+1.8
Fixed investment	+1.4	-7.5	-2.0	+5.3
Domestic demand	+2.4	-2.4	-0.2	+4.4

Percentage changes relative to previous half year, annualised. Times calculations based on Treasury forecasts.

ter of 1981. The fall in GDP from peak to trough was 4.6 per cent. In the previous recession, GDP hit a peak in the third quarter of 1973 and did not start rising steadily until two years later. Looking further back on the other hand, brief shallow recessions were the rule rather than the exception in the 1950s and 1960s and the kind of performance the Treasury is now forecasting would not have raised any eyebrows among economists in those golden decades.

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considerable comfort to government officials. Why, then, are so many complaints continuing to be heard about a recession which might be over within the next six months? And why are even the stoutest of government ministers so clearly nervous about the economic prospects?

Deep down, both forecasters and politicians remain nervous about the outlook for the economy for several good reasons. Firstly, of course, everything could change if there were a dramatic deterioration in the Gulf confrontation, leading either to much higher oil prices or even to the current level of prices being sustained throughout next year. The Treasury has assumed that oil will be back down to \$25 a barrel by the fourth quarter of next year, although officials refuse to be drawn on the precise movements they are

of the Group of Seven leading industrial nations to discuss the tumbling dollar. The French move was seen as a reflection of growing tension within the European monetary system. Sir Alan, who attributes the stock market crash of October 1987 to misguided attempts to peg exchange rates, said the free trade pact between the United States and Canada demonstrated that economic union did not require monetary union.

forecasting. In a sense, this information might be viewed as military intelligence, they maintain. But oil prices are so obviously outside the government's control that it seems pointless to cavil about them too much.

The two more serious worries relate to inflation and the country's international trade performance. This is the third year running in which the Treasury has predicted a decline in inflation to around the 5 per cent mark, and after the last year of disastrously inflationary "own goals" scepticism appears inevitable on this score. This time, however, government officials are adamant that the inflation target will be hit.

In terms of the "headline" measure of inflation, which includes mortgage payments and the poll tax, they have two good reasons for confidence. Further reductions in mortgage rates are clearly built into the government's monetary assumptions. According to several City economists, another 2 percentage points or so off interest rates seems a safe inference to draw from yesterday's forecasts. In addition, the government has provided £2½ billion to mitigate the impact of the poll tax and this too will make a big impact on the inflation rate from next May onwards.

What outside economists are less sure of is whether the underlying inflation, rate, excluding mortgage and poll tax, will fall in line with the headline rate. Significantly, however, officials maintain that all measures of underlying inflation would be very close to the headline rate of 5½ per cent by the end of next year. But even if this sharp reduction of inflation can be achieved, it will still leave one major source of uncertainty about the economic prospects. Like the inflation rate, this is in part a legacy of the Lawson boom which ended last year.

The current account deficit of £11 billion projected for next year will remain extremely large by historic and international standards. Moreover, it will almost certainly be starting to grow again once the recovery projected for next year gets under way. The growth of the deficit can be confidently predicted because both of the fundamental causes of trade imbalance will by then be moving in the wrong direction. By the end of next year, domestic demand will once again be growing rapidly, quite possibly faster than demand internationally. Meanwhile, the competitive position of British industry will have continued to deteriorate sharply, assuming the pound is not devalued now that it is in the ERM.

Britain's competitiveness is already at its worst level since 1983 against the world as a whole, although it is somewhat better against the other ERM countries. As shown by the Treasury's chart on relative unit labour costs, British exporters will find life increasingly difficult in international markets during the 18 months ahead. If British companies can really overcome the formidable obstacles of relative costs that the government has now placed before them, then the government will be justified in claiming that the country's economic performance has been transformed.

ANATOLE KALETSKY
Economics Editor

ERM 'cannot survive recession'

THE exchange-rate mechanism of the European Monetary System, which Britain joined only a month ago, cannot survive the recession and turbulence about to engulf Europe, Sir Alan Walters, former economic adviser to the prime minister, said.

Speaking shortly before the autumn statement, he also issued a powerful denunciation of the Chancellor's "hard ecu" alternative route to European monetary integration.

"The hard ecu doesn't have a remote chance," he told a

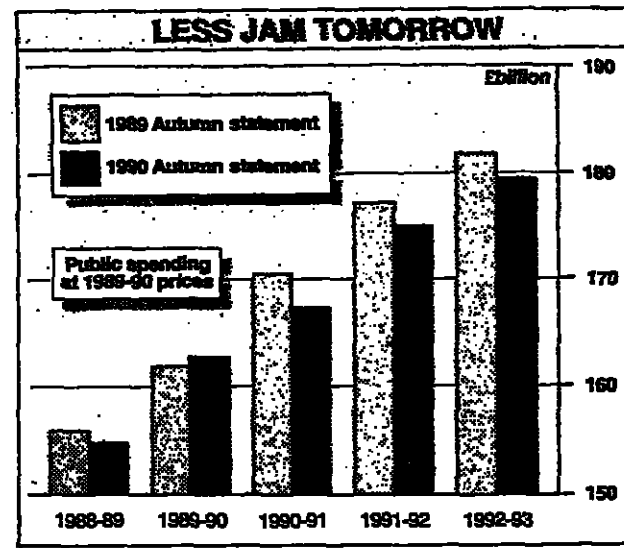
Gilt sales a matter of time

The Chancellor's lowered forecast for the budget surplus in the current fiscal year, and assumption of a balanced budget next year, were generally greeted as over-optimistic in the City.

But opinions were scattered over a wide range about the timing of the government's return to new issues of gilt-edged securities after an absence of more than two years. While Simon Briscoe, UK economist at Midland Montagu, saw a new issue of about £0.5 billion possible "very soon", Keith Skeoch of James Capel said the first tap issue would probably come by Christmas. But other analysts believe the government can wait until the new fiscal year, starting in April.

The autumn statement set the public sector debt repayment at £3 billion for the current year, compared with the £6.9 billion forecast in the budget in March. The new forecast reflects the rise in general government expenditure to £215.7 billion, after a cut of £198.8 billion in 1989-90. Receipts are now expected to rise slightly to £218.7 billion, against last year's £205.4 billion.

While Midland Montagu expects this year's debt repayment to drop to £2 billion, John Sheppard, senior economist at Warburg Securities, is now looking forward to a balanced budget. For next



year, the brokers' forecasts are a borrowing requirement of £4 billion and £3 billion respectively. James Capel is looking for a PSBR of £7 billion. This compares with the budget surplus of £7.9 billion in 1989-90.

Mr Sheppard estimates that the government funding requirement next year will be in the region of £10 billion, implying about £7 billion of gilt sales. The bulk of these will be to finance redemptions of maturing stock.

Peter Spencer, chief economist at Shearson Lehman, expects the government to try to muddle through without

movement building up on government revenue from falling corporate tax receipts and lower VAT intake as the economy goes into recession. Gilt sales moved up slightly on the news, but eased back in a dull market to close about 7/4 of a point lower.

The last conventional gilt issue was in August 1988, when a tranche of the 8½ per cent Treasury stock due 1994 was auctioned. Two months later, this was followed by the issue of a small tranche of index-linked stock.

Among the more exotic readings of John Major's latest forecasts yesterday was the view that the government might go for a quick gilt issue this month to try to depress the stock market and make the pricing of the power industry privatization more attractive. With the success of the electricity sale likely to affect public sentiment in the run-up to the next election, one analyst believed the political imperative for an early issue could exist.

Another view was that the government's borrowing requirements next year could be boosted seriously by the dropping out of power industry earnings from the general government trading surplus, further undermining its declining revenue.

COLIN NARBROUGH
Economics Correspondent

British Telecom
HALF YEAR RESULTS

Second quarter and half year results to 30 September, 1990

	Second quarter 3 months ended 30 September 1990 (unaudited) £m	Second quarter 3 months ended 30 September 1989 (unaudited) £m	Cumulative 6 months ended 30 September 1990 (unaudited) £m	Cumulative 6 months ended 30 September 1989 (unaudited) £m
Turnover	3,267	3,026	6,475	5,954
Operating profit	888	783	1,752	1,533
Profit before taxation	791	678	1,532	1,313
Taxation	265	224	513	446
Minority interests	4	5	10	10
Profit attributable to ordinary shareholders	522	449	1,009	857
Interim dividend			323	281
Earnings per ordinary share	8.5p	7.4p	16.5p	14.2p
Interim dividend per ordinary share (net)			5.25p	4.65p

The interim dividend will be paid on 11 February 1991, to shareholders on the register on 10 January 1991.

■ Turnover up 8.8%

■ Earnings per share up 16.4%

■ Interim dividend up 12.9%

"We are seeing a definite slowing in the rate of growth in our main services which reflects current trends both in the domestic economy and internationally."

"Nevertheless continuing improvements in cost control have contributed to a financial performance satisfactorily ahead of that achieved in the first half of 1989. Quality of service levels were better on virtually all fronts. Our programme for streamlining the group, with its focus on enhanced customer service and better value for money, is on plan."

Iain Vallance Chairman

If you have any queries as an investor, please call 0345 010505. For daily information on the British Telecom share price and matters of interest to shareholders generally, please call 0345 010707. You may telephone these numbers from anywhere in the UK for the price of a local call.

British Telecommunications plc, 81 Newgate Street, London EC1A 7AJ.

British
TELECOM
It's you we answer to

MAJOR INDICES				MAJOR CHANGES			
New York				RISKS:			
Dow Jones	2442.57	(+1.73)		Sohayby	457 1/2p	(+13 1/2)	
S&P Composite	307.96	(+1.57)		S.A. Brown	52 1/2p	(+20)	
Nasdaq	2256.91	(+1.67)		Thom Envl	53 1/2p	(+12)	
Russell 2000	2302.44	(+2.75)		Liberty	53 1/2p	(+10)	
FT-SE Euronext	948.81	(-0.03)		Devises & Newman	12 1/2p	(+20p)	
London				FALLS:			
BS Tendency	93.31	(-0.3)		Costain	17 1/2p	(-10)	
London A	1342.3	(+7.3)		J Crosby	67 1/2p	(-20)	
Frankfurt DAX	1369.44	(-1.71)		Sprafkin Bioschem.	27 1/2p	(-10)	
General	5134.44	(-51.05)		T. Hovenden	80p	(-10)	
Financial CAC	417.99	(-0.76)		Smith Barney	56 1/2p	(-10)	
European S&A Gen	4657.4	(-0.4)		Britannic	63 1/2p	(-7)	
London				Environet	53 1/2p	(-5)	
T - A All-Share	983.53	(-10.13)		Eurotunnel Units	110 1/2p	(-25)	
T - 1001	1084.72	(-11.82)		Ocean Group	257 1/2p	(-12)	
T - Gold Miners	155.1	(-1.5)		Rothmans '15	57 1/2p	(-10)	
T - Fixed Interest	85.40	(-0.03)		Telecom	53 1/2p	(-10)	
T - Govt Secs	80.13	(-0.19)		Orion Dairy	932 1/2p	(-18)	
LEAD Volume	18087			Glaxo	757 1/2p	(-10)	
LEAD Volume	22910			Yates & Vior	158 1/2p	(-34)	
PM (Datastream)	104.78	(+0.55)		Closing prices	621 1/2p	(-15)	
Derivates latest trading price							

national
boom lift
Telecom

each year despite the
business slump and
measures taken by
the company.
The company has
one of a great many
calls to the market
China's attack on
dissidents last year
again, seeing signs of
growth since the
Korean in August.

The national
calls increased for the
September compared
the previous September.

France Telecom's
board this year
has a 20 per cent
increase through the
group's Trust and
the group, which is
a part of the direction
France Telecom's board.

The board is
dividend of
17 per cent
of the group's
operating profit.
The group's
operating profit
was 15 per cent
of the group's
operating profit.

TRADED OPTIONS

	Call	Put
10/11/90	1.10	1.10
10/12/90	1.10	1.10
10/01/91	1.10	1.10
10/02/91	1.10	1.10
10/03/91	1.10	1.10
10/04/91	1.10	1.10
10/05/91	1.10	1.10
10/06/91	1.10	1.10
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10/08/91	1.10	1.10
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10/10/91	1.10	1.10
10/11/91	1.10	1.10
10/12/91	1.10	1.10
10/01/92	1.10	1.10
10/02/92	1.10	1.10
10/03/92	1.10	1.10
10/04/92	1.10	1.10
10/05/92	1.10	1.10
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10/01/93	1.10	1.10
10/02/93	1.10	1.10
10/03/93	1.10	1.10
10/04/93	1.10	1.10
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10/01/19	1.10	1.10
10/02/19	1.10	1.10
10/03/19	1.10	1.10
10/04/19	1.10	1.10
10/05/19	1.10	1.10
10/06/19	1.10	1.10
10/07/19	1.10	1.10
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10/11/19	1.10	1.10
10/12/19	1.10	1.10
10/01/20	1.10	1.10
10/02/20	1.10	1.10

هكذا من الأهل

Portfolio

PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches you have won outright. If you win, follow the prize money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Code or loss
1	Chatterfield	Property	
2	Nichols (JN) (Vintor)	Foods	
3	Gr Portland	Property	
4	Groceries	Property	
5	Mersey Docks	Transport	
6	Hanover House	Property	
7	Urd Scientific	Electronics	
8	Bowater	Industrials A-D	
9	Narcissus	Industrials L-R	
10	Pharmacia	Foods	
11	Canary	Banks, Discount	
12	Monarch	Industrials E-K	
13	ISA Int	Industrials A-D	
14	SBA	Industrials A-D	
15	Westpac	Banks, Discount	
16	First Nat Fin	Banks, Discount	
17	Johnson Matthey	Industrials E-K	
18	McKenna	Industrials L-R	
19	Howden	Industrials E-K	
20	Park Foods	Foods	
21	Lookers	Motor, Aircraft	
22	Barclay's	Building, Roads	
23	Chandler Gps	Building, Roads	
24	Cambridge Elec	Electronics	
25	De Beers	Oil, Gas	
26	Robert Hoyle	Hotels, Caterers	
27	Jordan (Thomas)	Industrials E-K	
28	Barlow Rand	Industrials A-D	
29	Thames TV	Leisure	
30	MEPC (as)	Property	
31	Clyde Pst	Oil, Gas	
32	Gibbs & Dandy Ord	Building, Roads	
33	Stomgard	Industrials S-Z	
34	Volex	Electronics	
35	Walsingham Rink	Chemicals, Plastics	
36	Haskins Gp	Electronics	
37	Leeds Sec (as)	Property	
38	Renold	Industrials L-R	
39	Oral Pst	Oil, Gas	
40	Whitson	Industrials S-Z	
41	Br Polythene	Industrials A-D	
42	Perkins Food	Foods	
43	Kwik-Fit	Motor, Aircraft	
44	Cussons	Property	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend					
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £3,000 in tomorrow's newspaper.					
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT

Three readers shared the £6,000 Portfolio Platinum prize yesterday. Paul Donnelly, of Southport, Robert Bignell, of Landrindod, Powys, and Arthur Bowles, of Godalming, Surrey, each receive £2,000.

BRITISH FUNDS

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BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

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ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began November 5. Dealings end November 16. Settlement day November 19. Settlement day November 26.

\$Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (as) denotes Alpha Stocks. (VOLUMES PAGE 26)

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Widespread losses

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
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mod. CBC. TW. etc. 11/locate

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FSH. 41,000 miles. £2,595. 0793
752170 & 0831 306096 T.

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MOTORING

BY KEVIN EASON, MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

Vauxhall's latest stallion, the Lotus Carlton, needs careful handling and the company plans to show buyers the ropes

Hold on to your horsepower

The time to decide whether to change up into top gear rarely happens at 140mph. In the case of the Lotus Carlton, the question seems academic, when it is hurtling along at a speed at which most cars would have burst their pistons and rattled to a halt.

Six gears are available, but fifth brought an easy cruising speed of 140mph around the Millbrook test track in Bedfordshire. Sixth would only help the car to achieve its top speed of about 180mph.

The fact that such power is available in the age of the 200mph Ferrari F40 and the Porsche 959 is not surprising. The fact that it is available in a four-seater saloon from Britain's second biggest car company has provoked the anger of police and safety experts.

Even Vauxhall executives seem to have caught the jitters. Although they are offering training at a high-performance driving school to all Britain's 440 potential Lotus Carlton owners, purchasers will be asked to sign a waiver form if they refuse the offer.

Why this waiver has been included is a mystery. Paul Tosh, Vauxhall's managing director, says the document has no legal value, so why should drivers be asked to sign something in which they admit they have refused the Vauxhall offer?

Is the maker a little worried about what will happen if the monster it has created runs amok?

There seems no reason the company should worry unduly.

About 3,000 high-performance Porsches, capable of more than twice the motorway speed limit of 70mph, are sold in Britain every year without so much as a second thought.

Jaguar intends to produce a sports car capable of 200mph to underline Britain's engineering prowess, and Ford has its own 160mph "budget" sports car, the £27,000 Sierra Cosworth. Why then, when Vauxhall introduces a flagship saloon, with performance and engineering devised in Britain by Lotus, is the company showered not with plaudits but indignation?

The Lotus Carlton is not a model for "boy racers", Mr Tosh emphasises, and the price of £48,000 makes this sort of ownership unlikely. The profile of a Lotus Carlton driver is probably that of a middle-aged professional looking for an outstanding performance car which still offers executive standards of ride and interior comfort.

Mr Tosh defends the Lotus Carlton by deflecting criticism of its extreme performance abilities and emphasising its standards of safety. The car can reach 60mph in 5.2 seconds, but it can be stopped within 8.5 seconds by its anti-lock disc brakes.

A 3.6-litre engine, twin turbo-charged for 377bhp, has been added to the factory-built Carlton GSi 3000, plus bigger and better



Hot off the hoof: the Lotus Carlton has a 3.6 litre engine and a cattle-stomping top speed of 180mph

brakes, Lotus-tuned sports suspension, and a huge ZF gearbox designed for GM's Corvette ZR1, which means an increase of more than 5,000 in the car's kerb weight.

Power is delivered smoothly at all speeds and the car sits on bends like a limpet.

The Carlton is remarkably easy to handle, almost docile, around town. But I was always aware of sitting on the huge reserve of power.

If the Lotus Carlton is to enhance Vauxhall's reputation, Mr Tosh should insist that full driver training is a condition of sale with this car.

Two days in professional hands is not an imposition on any driver. Those who do not like the condition can look elsewhere to indulge their reckless fantasies.

Let there be high lights

HILL House Hammond is one of the first insurance companies to respond to the campaign for high-level brake lights, long championed by this column. Barry Hulbert, its managing director, discovered on a visit to the United States that "rear end shunts" could be reduced by 53 per cent by the fitting of a brake light in the rear windscreen area. He has instructed all Hill House staff to have their company cars fitted with them and has arranged 5 per cent discounts for drivers who use the high-level lights.

Cold comfort

TIMELY advice. The Institute of Advanced Motorists gives these tips for winter driving: avoid motorways in fog; use dipped headlights in low visibility; whatever the time of day, watch the road surface for wet leaves, black ice and grease patches, which cause skids; keep your distance from the vehicle in front; be gentle with controls; listen to traffic reports; and take your time.

Top tower

ROVER's 416 GTi has won the Caravan Club Tower of the Year title. The Rover Metro GTi was also a runner-up in the lowest-price class. The Citroën XM Turbo SD, with a 40mpg capability from its 2.1-litre engine, took the award in the diesel category. Other winners under £9,000 class: Vauxhall Nova merit 1.5TD, £9,001 to £12,000, Mitsubishi Colt 1800GTi, £12,001 to £17,000, Rover 416 GTi, £17,001 to £21,000, Vauxhall Senator CD 3.0i, off-road, Mitsubishi Shogun.

Catch the Cat

JAGUAR's XJ220, the 200mph prototype that stole the British

International Motor Show of 1988, can be seen again at the National Classic Cars Show on December 1 and 2 at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham. Admission: £5 for adults, £2 for children and pensioners.

Toyota drive

SEPTEMBER vehicle production for Toyota was 334,373, an increase of 1.5 per cent. A sobering thought is that the four-week figure almost equates to annual production from British companies, such as Rover and Vauxhall.

Round record

ROVER's round-the-world record, set in June, has been broken. A two-man team from Audi in an S2 coupe, the German company's 154mph production car, completed 25,000 miles across Europe, North America and Africa in 28 days and 16 hours, 11 days better than the trip by a Rover 800.

Clean machines



STRANGE facts for a dinner party: the cleanest cars are in Glasgow, Surrey and Sussex and the least washed in Mansfield, Nottinghamshire, says a survey for Wilcoxon Group, which makes automatic car washes. Wilcoxon says a third of Glasgow motorists who use car washes wash their cars weekly, 20 per cent fortnightly and the rest at least once a month. Have they not heard of a bucket and sponge?

HOW THEY BUILT THE SUPERCAR

BOB EATON, the European president of General Motors, was the man who wanted to know whether his company could build a supercar to rival Ford's Sierra Cosworth or the Jaguar XJS.

Mr Eaton turned to Lotus for the answer.

The GM subsidiary was given two years to redesign the current Vauxhall Carlton and produce a limited edition of 1,100 for Europe.

Lotus scoured the world for components: wheels from Switzerland, tyres from Luxembourg, rear axle from Australia and a gearbox from Germany. However, 200

UK suppliers are also involved in the venture.

What you get: Engine: 3.6-litre, six cylinders in line formation with 24 valves, boosted through twin Garrett T25 turbochargers, for 377bhp at 5,200rpm, and with six-speed ZF-supplied gearbox. Twin ceramic catalytic converters for exhaust clearing.

Performance: 0 to 60mph in 5.2 seconds. The top speed recorded is 175.5mph but engineers say that it has achieved higher speeds in tests.

Fuel consumption (unleaded): 17.6mpg. Price: £48,000.

Show time for racing Rover

STEAM blew like a fog across the railway station as Frank Bennett and Dudley Noble set out on one of the great battles between machines. The confrontation was of the classic type enjoyed by Hollywood film producers and engineers alike: a car pitted against a steam-driven locomotive.

The two British drivers, in a Rover Light Six, were trying to outrun the Blue Train continental express on its 20-hour journey from St Raphael on the French Riviera to Calais on the northwestern coast.

The race had become a regular event, but no driver following the twisting, rural roads of France was able to beat the Blue Train, which took a virtually straight route to the north.

On January 27, 1930, however, Bennett and Noble lined up against the Blue Train at St Raphael. The

train, surely, had the advantage since the Britons faced winding country roads, wintry weather and the uncertainty of the car's reliability. Fine model though it was, the two pulled away together and, 750 miles later, the train arrived at its destination, almost on time, but 20 minutes after the Rover.

The achievement, which required the car to average 38mph, made such an impression on the public imagination that the British Motor Industry Heritage Trust has decided to buy the very car that beat the train.

The car will have to undergo substantial restoration, but Peter Mitchell, the trust's managing director, says it will be on display soon at the Heritage Motor Museum in Syon Park, Brentford, West London.



Motoring first: the Rover that beat the Blue Train 60 years ago

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1961, 4700 cc, Chassis No. 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 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1245, 1246, 1247, 1248, 1249, 1250, 1251, 1252, 1253, 1254, 1255, 1256, 1257, 1258, 1259, 1260, 1261, 1262, 1263, 1264, 1265, 1266, 1267, 1268, 1269, 1270, 1271, 1272, 1273, 1274, 1275, 1276, 1277, 1278, 1279, 1280, 1281, 1282, 1283, 1284, 1285, 1286, 1287, 1288, 1289, 1290, 1291, 1292, 1293, 1294, 1295, 1296, 1297, 1298, 1299, 1300, 1301, 1302, 1303, 1304, 1305, 1306, 1307, 1308, 1309, 1310, 1311, 1312, 1313, 1314, 1315, 1316, 1317, 1318, 1319, 1320, 1321, 1322, 1323, 1324, 1325, 1326, 1327, 1328, 1329, 1330, 1331, 1332, 1333, 1334, 1335, 1336, 1337, 1338, 1339, 1340, 1341, 1342, 1343, 1344, 1345, 1346, 1347, 1348, 1349, 1350, 1351, 1352, 1353, 1354, 1355, 1356, 1357, 1358, 1359, 1360, 1361, 1362, 1363, 1364, 1365, 1366, 1367, 1368, 1369, 1370, 1371, 1372, 1373, 1374, 1375, 1376, 1377, 1378, 1379, 1380, 1381, 1382, 1383, 1384, 1385, 1386, 1387, 1388, 1389, 1390, 1391, 1392, 1393, 1394, 1395, 1396, 1397, 1398, 1399, 1400, 1401, 1402, 1403, 1404, 1405, 1406, 1407, 1408, 1409, 1410, 1411, 1

Yalanoura can sustain fine form of Italian connection

By MANDARIN
(MICHAEL PHILLIPS)

HAVING both reached 100 winners in a season for the first time, Luca Cumani and Lanfranco Dettori are entitled to reflect upon 1990 with great satisfaction.

The season is not over yet, though, and at Doncaster today the successful Newmarket-based Italian connection can strike again with Yalanoura in the Royal British Legion Stakes.

During the last meeting on Town Moor, Yalanoura won a handicap over 1 1/2 miles by three lengths from Terminus who was by no means discarded only six days later when he finished third behind Osawa and Gilt Preference at Newmarket.

Having been campaigned over distances from eight to 12 furlongs, today's trip of 1 1/2 miles represents uncharted waters for Yalanoura.

However, the way she finished last time bracketed her breeding (she is by Lashkari out of a mare by Tennyson) suggests strongly to me that she will relish it.

For Retouch, this is arguably on the short side since it was over 2 1/2 miles that he came into his own in June when he won the Ascot Stakes during the royal meeting.

Rudjig, who so nearly beat that good mare Sessame in the Aston Park Stakes at Newbury in May, made a belated reappearance at Salisbury at the end of last month when he just managed to hold Hereford at bay. On 6lb worse terms, though, he should not do so now.

At this late stage of the flat season, it often pays to follow those who have been lightly-raced, and for that reason, Miss Pokey appeals as a sporting bet to win the Unknown Soldier Handicap.

She was having only her second race of the season when a most decisive winner of a similar but slightly longer race at Bath 11 days ago.

Her chance of winning again has not been diminished by a penalty and neither have those of Beau Venture (3.0) and La Bamba (4.0) judged on the way that they won at Newmarket and Yarmouth respectively last time.

At Cheltenham, I give the in-form duo of David Nicholson and Richard Dunwoody a fine chance of landing a double with Banker's Gossip (2.10) and Another Coral (2.45).

The latter, who has two victories over today's course and distance to his credit, appeals as the likely winner of the John Seyfried Mickleton Handicap Chase, especially now that he will be meeting Broad Beam on markedly better terms than when they clashed last at Stratford eight

days ago when there was only a head between them.

Nicholson's other runners, Sam Da Vinci and Deadly Charm, may have to play second fiddle to Seagrass (3.20) and Stratford Ponds (3.55) respectively.

For the day's best bet, though, I turn to Market Rasen where Black Hammer, from Charlie Brook's in-form stable, is named to win the Bransdon Produce Handicap Hurdle even though he is burdened with top weight on his seasonal debut and even though he is opposed by Peter Easterby's much-improved four-year-old Ninefives, who has won all of his three races this autumn.

With a 7lb penalty taking his weight to 11st 10lb, Ninefives could well be too close to a horse of the scope of Black Hammer, who is a half-brother to the former champion hurdler Gaye Brief.

McKeown gets 14-day whip ban

DEAN McKeown, the season's leading northern jockey, was yesterday banned for 14 days by the Jockey Club's disciplinary committee for misuse of the whip (Phil McLennan writes).

McKeown was referred to Portman Square by the Doncaster stewards over his riding of Wing Park, runner-up to Devil in the Solagus Handicap on October 27.

The committee found McKeown guilty of improper riding in that he had hit the horse with unreasonably frequent strokes. As this was his third offence of the season, the committee suspended him for two weeks, the ban to run from today until November 22.

McKeown has a lead of three over Kevin Darby in the race for the Cock of the North title but Darby misses Doncaster today as he is serving the second day of a two-day suspension.

Piggott doubt

Lester Piggott will probably not ride in Italy on Sunday as Mr Phipps, his intended mount in the group three Premio Roma Varchia, was withdrawn yesterday by William Hastings-Bass.

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Panto Prince to take on best

By PAUL WHEELER

PANTO PRINCE is set to stand off outside the wings. Now Panto Prince is set to take on the best at Kempton on Boxing Day. Trainer Chris Popham said: "The owner has wanted to go for the race for the last three years. I've never had him any better and if he doesn't do it this year he never will."

Although best known for his performances over two miles, including that titanic struggle with Desert Orchid at Ascot two

seasons ago, Panto Prince won the SGB Chase over three miles last season. And Popham has "no doubts about him staying." "He gets any trip, because he doesn't pull."

East River, fancied by his trainer, Toby Balding, for a valuable race at Cheltenham in the spring, in which he ran badly, made amends with victory in the Mendip Amateur Riders' Novices' Hurdle.

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MARKET RASSEN

By MANDARIN

1.0 Northern Rock. 1.30 Otterburn Hurdle. 2.0 Geostar. 2.35 Invasion. 3.5 BLACK HUMOUR (nap). 3.55 Fish Quay. 4.5 Oivers Hill.

Going: good, (back straight, good to firm)

1.0 FINE-BRANSTON POPPY DAY SELLING HURDLE (21,842: 2m 10) (20 runners)

1. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 2. J. O'Connell. 3. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 4. J. O'Connell. 5. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 6. J. O'Connell. 7. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 8. J. O'Connell. 9. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 10. J. O'Connell. 11. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 12. J. O'Connell. 13. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 14. J. O'Connell. 15. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 16. J. O'Connell. 17. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 18. J. O'Connell. 19. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 20. J. O'Connell.

2.0 BRANSTON PRODUCE HANDICAP HURDLE (23,288: 2m 10) (11 runners)

1. 11. BLACK HAMOUR 22 (G) C. Brooks 6-12-0. 2. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 3. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 4. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 5. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 6. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 7. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 8. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 9. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 10. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 11. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9.

3.0 BRANSTON HARGRAVE INTERNATIONAL HANDICAP CHASE (24,000: 3m) (3 runners)

1. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 2. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 3. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9.

4.0 BRANSTON-EXEL LOGISTICS LEVY BOARD NOVICES HURDLE (22,355: 2m 14) (14 runners)

1. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 2. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 3. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 4. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 5. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 6. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 7. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 8. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 9. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 10. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 11. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 12. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 13. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 14. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9.

5.0 BRANSTON-EXEL LOGISTICS LEVY BOARD NOVICES HURDLE (22,355: 2m 14) (14 runners)

1. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 2. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 3. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 4. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 5. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 6. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 7. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 8. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 9. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 10. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 11. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 12. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 13. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 14. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9.

6.0 BRANSTON-EXEL LOGISTICS LEVY BOARD NOVICES HURDLE (22,355: 2m 14) (14 runners)

1. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 2. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 3. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 4. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 5. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 6. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 7. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 8. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 9. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 10. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 11. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 12. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 13. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 14. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9.

7.0 BRANSTON-EXEL LOGISTICS LEVY BOARD NOVICES HURDLE (22,355: 2m 14) (14 runners)

1. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 2. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 3. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 4. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 5. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 6. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 7. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 8. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 9. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 10. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 11. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 12. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 13. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 14. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9.

8.0 BRANSTON-EXEL LOGISTICS LEVY BOARD NOVICES HURDLE (22,355: 2m 14) (14 runners)

1. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 2. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 3. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 4. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 5. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 6. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 7. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 8. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 9. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 10. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 11. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 12. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 13. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 14. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9.

9.0 BRANSTON-EXEL LOGISTICS LEVY BOARD NOVICES HURDLE (22,355: 2m 14) (14 runners)

1. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 2. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 3. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 4. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 5. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 6. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 7. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 8. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 9. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 10. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 11. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 12. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 13. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 14. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9.

10.0 BRANSTON-EXEL LOGISTICS LEVY BOARD NOVICES HURDLE (22,355: 2m 14) (14 runners)

1. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 2. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 3. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 4. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 5. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 6. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 7. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 8. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 9. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 10. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 11. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 12. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 13. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 14. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9.

11.0 BRANSTON-EXEL LOGISTICS LEVY BOARD NOVICES HURDLE (22,355: 2m 14) (14 runners)

1. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 2. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 3. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 4. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 5. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 6. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 7. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 8. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 9. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 10. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 11. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 12. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 13. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9. 14. 2M. TRIST SPORTS 10 (G) G. G. G. 4-11-9.

CELTIC HAM

By MANDARIN

1.00 The Milroy. 1.35 Jama Zulu. 2.10 Banker's Gossip. 2.45 Another Coral. 3.20 Seagrass. 3.55 Stratford Ponds. Michael Seely's selection: 2.45 PENDENNIS (nap). The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.55 STRATFORD PONDS.

Going: good to firm

1.0 COLN VALLEY FISH AND GAME COMPANY NOVICES CHASE (Amateurs: 24,516: 3m) (3 runners)

1. 100. GRAND INQUISITOR 212 (G) H. H. H. 5-11-7. 2. 100. GRAND INQUISITOR 212

An era ends for the Nos Galan

In memory of Griffith Morgan of Nythbray in this parish who died in the year 1737 at 37 years of age. He was a great runner. He defeated one called Prince, of Beddow, in a race of 12 miles, which he completed in seven minutes within the hour (inscribed on the gravestone of Griffith Morgan)

A QUARTER to midnight on New Year's Eve and Britain's best distance runners are ready to race through the streets of a Welsh mining village. At the head of the queue is Dave Bedford, soon to become world record-holder for 10,000 metres. Bedford conquers his first Nos Galan win, and becomes the talk of Mountain Ash for days. It makes a welcome change from coal.

"I first ran Nos Galan as a 14-year-old under somebody else's name because there was an age block," Bedford said. "I thought it would be fun to run from one year into another and I couldn't wait." Martin Hyman, Stan Eldon, Derek Ibbotson and Bruce Tulloh, great distance runners all, had each played a part in the making of Mountain Ash and now it was Bedford's turn.

The constant factor was Griffith Morgan. Each year, before the midnight race, a mystery runner would run, with a lighted torch, the four miles from Morgan's grave to a beacon outside the town hall. Among them were Ibbotson, Tulloh, Hyman, Hemery, Board, Packer, Rand and it is doubtful whether they ever believed that Morgan had covered 12 miles in 53 minutes, but the legend fed the popularity of the occasion.

Morgan, it was said, had run from Nythbray Farm, on the outskirts of Porth, to Pontypridd and back - some seven miles - before the kettle had boiled. His affairs as a runner were managed by his sweetheart, who had such confidence in him that she wagered her entire savings of £1,000 on him beating a challenger, in a 12-

mile race from Newport to Beddow.

When Morgan won, his sweetheart was overjoyed and slapped him hard on the back. Too hard, Morgan dropped dead. Her hero was carried to his resting place, the church on the hill at Llanwano, where the gravestone telling of his triumph can be seen still. His death is recorded in the Llanwano Church register.

Once again, this December 31, the churchyard will be visited by a mystery runner, but whether the effort will be worthwhile is questionable. The Nos Galan which Eldon, Hyman, Stan Eldon, Derek Ibbotson and Bruce Tulloh, great distance runners all, had each played a part in the making of Mountain Ash and now it was Bedford's turn.

"We have come to the end of an era," Bernard Baldwin, the race director, said. The midnight run has been moved to 8.30pm and the field of more than 1,000 is to be limited to 50. "I have reluctantly agreed with the police, the council and the highway authorities that a midnight race is no longer on," Baldwin added.

Last year, the race ended in farce as the biggest field in Nos Galan history, 1,200, had to queue several hundred yards to finish. The winner, Simon Muggleston, needed to push through tail-enders to cross the line. At one point, the crowd was so large - 25,000 according to Baldwin - that the police car leading the race had to abandon the course.

"If we had a midnight race this year, we would need £4,500 worth of barriers to keep back spectators," Baldwin said. And Nos Galan cannot afford it because its sponsor, who put in £12,000 last year, has offered only £3,000 this year. Spectators



Winter warmer: David Bedford on the way to victory in the famous New Year's Eve race at Nos Galan in 1969

standing in front of the increasing number of parked cars have made the streets too narrow for the burgeoning field.

Eldon, a Reading policeman, was world cross country champion at the time of his Nos Galan win in 1958: "I am saddened to hear about this," he said. "Running at midnight was fundamental to the event. Now, I do not think it will

have the same attraction. We would run the midnight race on the Friday and then dash home to run the county cross country championship on the Saturday afternoon: that is what Nos Galan meant to us." Bedford lamented: "Nos Galan was a wonderful event. It was the forerunner to the mass participation road races we were to see in future years."

Nos Galan has already suffered one break in its history, from 1974 to 1983, and Bedford was partly responsible for its revival. He was race director for three years, but fell out with the organisers. "The problem is the lack of proper organisation," he said. "You can't run a race like Nos Galan now with only voluntary support. It needs a more professional edge. I could do it if I

was asked." Bedford has a track record in event organisation: London Marathon and Edinburgh Grand Prix athletics to name but two. "It is essential that the spirit of what happened in the past remains," he added. But Bedford is unlikely to be asked. Nos Galan has room for only one permanent hero.

David Powell

Consistent All Blacks leave Dubroca's men looking down and out once more

Argentina forced to reshuffle

By David Hann

RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THE Argentines may have arrived in Britain last month with an inexperienced party but by the end of their tour only a handful will not have played international rugby. The XV, which played its first match tomorrow in the third and last international of their tour sees Emilio Ezeiza with his first cap at flanker and Manuel Aguirre, who joined the tour as a replacement for the suspended Luis Lomardi, come in at loose-head prop.

Indeed, there are 10 changes, three of them positional, to the side beaten 51-0 by England last weekend. Of the back division, only Hugo Porta survives in his original position, though both the centres, Diego Cuscia Silva and Mathias Allen, move to the wings, which permits Lisandro Arbizu, who won his first cap as a replacement against Ireland, to play his first full game for his country.

Arbizu, aged 19, is a stand-off half by trade with a bouncy style which will add variation to the centre, provided his forwards can win some quick possession. Miguel Bertrando will move from flanker to No. 8 and Alejandro Cubelli, who toured alongside Porta in Britain in 1978, plays his first international at hooker since 1985, when he won the last of 14 caps against France.

The front row has caused Argentina all sorts of problems this week. To the suspension of Federico Mendez were added injuries to Diego Cash and Hernan Salazar, which left Aguirre as the only fit prop. However, Cash has recovered from an injury received in Tuesday's match against the South of Scotland at Kelso, which the Pumas won 13-11. Ballatore will sit on the bench and Daniel Poci was expected to arrive from Buenos Aires yesterday to reinforce the front row.

As Poci, who was a replacement for the injured Aguirre, was selected which beat England during the summer, arrives, another Puma departs. Osvaldo Faccioli, the Tucuman lock, damaged medial ligaments in his right knee at Kelso and returns home tomorrow.

ARGENTINA: G. Aguirre (14), D. Cuscia Silva (15), L. Arbizu (16), M. Aguirre (17), H. Salazar (18), D. Cash (19), F. Mendez (20), M. Bertrando (21), M. Allen (22), D. Cuscia Silva (23), P. Aguirre (24), L. Arbizu (25), M. Aguirre (26), H. Salazar (27), D. Cash (28), F. Mendez (29), M. Bertrando (30), M. Allen (31), D. Cuscia Silva (32), P. Aguirre (33), L. Arbizu (34), M. Aguirre (35), H. Salazar (36), D. Cash (37), F. Mendez (38), M. Bertrando (39), M. Allen (40), D. Cuscia Silva (41), P. Aguirre (42), L. Arbizu (43), M. Aguirre (44), H. Salazar (45), D. Cash (46), F. Mendez (47), M. Bertrando (48), M. Allen (49), D. Cuscia Silva (50), P. Aguirre (51), L. Arbizu (52), M. Aguirre (53), H. Salazar (54), D. Cash (55), F. Mendez (56), M. Bertrando (57), M. Allen (58), D. Cuscia Silva (59), P. Aguirre (60), L. Arbizu (61), M. Aguirre (62), H. Salazar (63), D. Cash (64), F. Mendez (65), M. Bertrando (66), M. Allen (67), D. Cuscia Silva (68), P. Aguirre (69), L. Arbizu (70), M. Aguirre (71), H. Salazar (72), D. Cash (73), F. Mendez (74), M. Bertrando (75), M. Allen (76), D. Cuscia Silva (77), P. Aguirre (78), L. Arbizu (79), M. Aguirre (80), H. Salazar (81), D. Cash (82), F. Mendez (83), M. Bertrando (84), M. Allen (85), D. Cuscia Silva (86), P. Aguirre (87), L. Arbizu (88), M. Aguirre (89), H. Salazar (90), D. Cash (91), F. Mendez (92), M. Bertrando (93), M. Allen (94), D. Cuscia Silva (95), P. Aguirre (96), L. Arbizu (97), M. Aguirre (98), H. Salazar (99), D. Cash (100), F. Mendez (101), M. Bertrando (102), M. Allen (103), D. Cuscia Silva (104), P. Aguirre (105), L. Arbizu (106), M. Aguirre (107), H. Salazar (108), D. Cash (109), F. Mendez (110), M. Bertrando (111), M. Allen (112), D. Cuscia Silva (113), P. Aguirre (114), L. Arbizu (115), M. Aguirre (116), H. Salazar (117), D. Cash (118), F. Mendez (119), M. Bertrando (120), M. Allen (121), D. Cuscia Silva (122), P. Aguirre (123), L. Arbizu (124), M. Aguirre (125), H. Salazar (126), D. Cash (127), F. Mendez (128), M. Bertrando (129), M. Allen (130), D. Cuscia Silva (131), P. Aguirre (132), L. Arbizu (133), M. Aguirre (134), H. Salazar (135), D. Cash (136), F. Mendez (137), M. Bertrando (138), M. Allen (139), D. Cuscia Silva (140), P. Aguirre (141), L. Arbizu (142), M. Aguirre (143), H. Salazar (144), D. Cash (145), F. Mendez (146), M. Bertrando (147), M. Allen (148), D. Cuscia Silva (149), P. Aguirre (150), L. Arbizu (151), M. Aguirre (152), H. Salazar (153), D. Cash (154), F. Mendez (155), M. Bertrando (156), M. Allen (157), D. Cuscia Silva (158), P. Aguirre (159), L. Arbizu (160), M. Aguirre (161), H. Salazar (162), D. Cash (163), F. Mendez (164), M. Bertrando (165), M. Allen (166), D. Cuscia Silva (167), P. Aguirre (168), L. Arbizu (169), M. Aguirre (170), H. Salazar (171), D. Cash (172), F. Mendez (173), M. Bertrando (174), M. Allen (175), D. Cuscia Silva (176), P. Aguirre (177), L. Arbizu (178), M. Aguirre (179), H. Salazar (180), D. Cash (181), F. Mendez (182), M. Bertrando (183), M. Allen (184), D. Cuscia Silva (185), P. Aguirre (186), L. Arbizu (187), M. Aguirre (188), H. Salazar (189), D. Cash (190), F. Mendez (191), M. Bertrando (192), M. Allen (193), D. Cuscia Silva (194), P. Aguirre (195), L. Arbizu (196), M. Aguirre (197), H. Salazar (198), D. Cash (199), F. Mendez (200), M. Bertrando (201), M. Allen (202), D. Cuscia Silva (203), P. Aguirre (204), L. Arbizu (205), M. Aguirre (206), H. Salazar (207), D. Cash (208), F. Mendez (209), M. Bertrando (210), M. Allen (211), D. Cuscia Silva (212), P. Aguirre (213), L. Arbizu (214), M. Aguirre (215), H. Salazar (216), D. Cash (217), F. Mendez (218), M. Bertrando (219), M. Allen (220), D. Cuscia Silva (221), P. Aguirre (222), L. Arbizu (223), M. Aguirre (224), H. Salazar (225), D. Cash (226), F. Mendez (227), M. Bertrando (228), M. Allen (229), D. Cuscia Silva (230), P. Aguirre (231), L. Arbizu (232), M. Aguirre (233), H. Salazar (234), D. Cash (235), F. Mendez (236), M. Bertrando (237), M. Allen (238), D. Cuscia Silva (239), P. Aguirre (240), L. Arbizu (241), M. Aguirre (242), H. Salazar (243), D. Cash (244), F. Mendez (245), M. Bertrando (246), M. Allen (247), D. Cuscia Silva (248), P. Aguirre (249), L. Arbizu (250), M. Aguirre (251), H. Salazar (252), D. Cash (253), F. Mendez (254), M. Bertrando (255), M. Allen (256), D. Cuscia Silva (257), P. Aguirre (258), L. Arbizu (259), M. Aguirre (260), H. Salazar (261), D. Cash (262), F. Mendez (263), M. Bertrando (264), M. Allen (265), D. Cuscia Silva (266), P. Aguirre (267), L. Arbizu (268), M. Aguirre (269), H. Salazar (270), D. Cash (271), F. Mendez (272), M. Bertrando (273), M. Allen (274), D. Cuscia Silva (275), P. Aguirre (276), L. Arbizu (277), M. Aguirre (278), H. Salazar (279), D. Cash (280), F. Mendez (281), M. Bertrando (282), M. Allen (283), D. Cuscia Silva (284), P. Aguirre (285), L. Arbizu (286), M. Aguirre (287), H. Salazar (288), D. Cash (289), F. Mendez (290), M. Bertrando (291), M. Allen (292), D. 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Aguirre (348), L. Arbizu (349), M. Aguirre (350), H. Salazar (351), D. Cash (352), F. Mendez (353), M. Bertrando (354), M. Allen (355), D. Cuscia Silva (356), P. Aguirre (357), L. Arbizu (358), M. Aguirre (359), H. Salazar (360), D. Cash (361), F. Mendez (362), M. Bertrando (363), M. Allen (364), D. Cuscia Silva (365), P. Aguirre (366), L. Arbizu (367), M. Aguirre (368), H. Salazar (369), D. Cash (370), F. Mendez (371), M. Bertrando (372), M. Allen (373), D. Cuscia Silva (374), P. Aguirre (375), L. Arbizu (376), M. Aguirre (377), H. Salazar (378), D. Cash (379), F. Mendez (380), M. Bertrando (381), M. Allen (382), D. Cuscia Silva (383), P. Aguirre (384), L. Arbizu (385), M. Aguirre (386), H. Salazar (387), D. Cash (388), F. Mendez (389), M. Bertrando (390), M. Allen (391), D. Cuscia Silva (392), P. Aguirre (393), L. Arbizu (394), M. Aguirre (395), H. Salazar (396), D. Cash (397), F. Mendez (398), M. Bertrando (399), M. Allen (400), D. Cuscia Silva (401), P. Aguirre (402), L. 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